

CSFP Briefing Document: What is the Timing for School Finance? Are Adjustments Made Throughout the Year?

The timing of the legislatures work on school finance and school district decisions for their budget do not tie together neatly.

Legislature: January – March/April/early May: The legislature convenes in January and begins work on School Finance in March or April for the upcoming school year. (i.e. January – May 2018 convening, determining funding for 2018-19 school year.)

To determine funding for the upcoming 2018-19 school year the legislature uses the following estimates. Once actual numbers are available and state forecasts are updated, the legislature may adjust funding to districts.

- i) An **estimated enrollment count** (from May 2018) is used until CDE releases the October Membership Count in December 2018.
- ii) An **estimated local share** (local property taxes and specific ownership tax) is used until the final mill levy certification, which is determined in December 2018.
- iii) In **January 2019, via the Supplemental Process, the legislature makes adjustments to the district funding.** The desired outcome is to increase revenue to reflect enrollment changes and local property tax collections. **When the state does not pick up the new dollars needed it is the taken back from a school district in the form of a mid-year rescission.**

School Districts: Will have made decisions for the upcoming school year in many areas prior to knowing the revenue they will actually receive. Districts must finalize the upcoming fiscal years' budget by the end of June 2018.