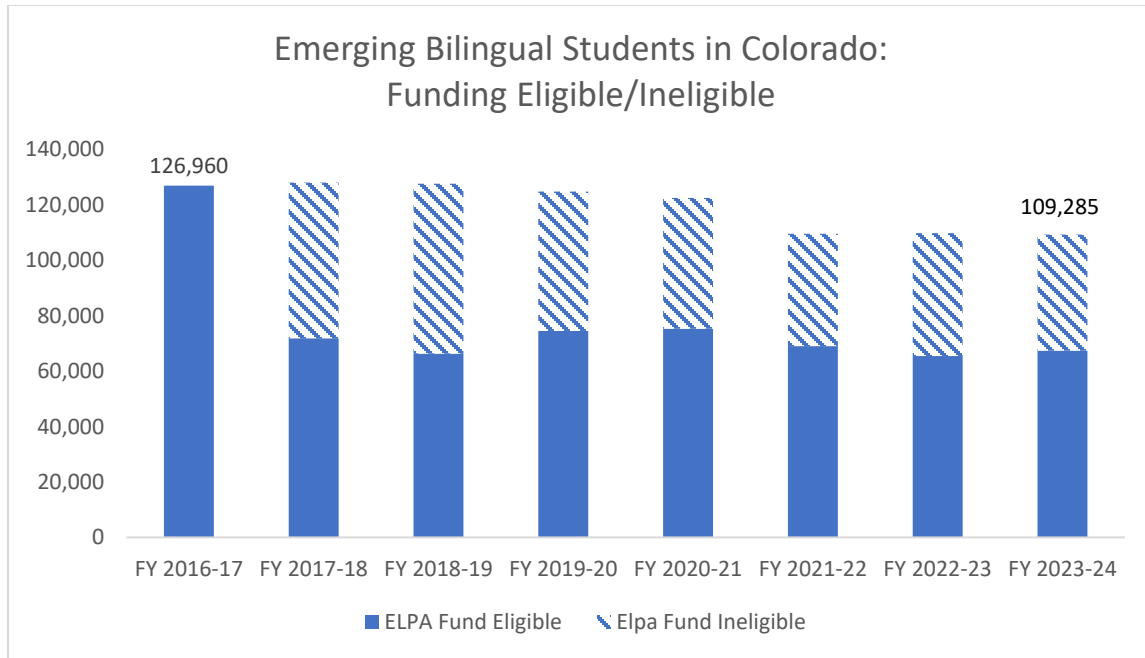


# COLORADO SCHOOL FINANCE PROJECT

Support Children - Support The Future



The number of Colorado’s PK-12 students identified as Emergent Bilingual Students, or English Language students according to CDE, stayed constant from 109,809 in FY 2022-23 to 109,285 in 2023-24. Emergent Bilingual students make up 12% of all Colorado Students. According to the Colorado English Language Proficiency Act (ELPA) students are “eligible for up to a total of five budget years regardless of whether the student transfers enrollment among Local Education Providers during the five years.” The 2016-17 school year was the last year all Emergent Bilingual students received funding. In 2023-24, 41,853 students were ineligible to receive funding. Prekindergarten students are served by school districts but are not eligible for ELPA funding. More than 80 percent of Colorado’s emergent bilingual students speak Spanish; in addition to Spanish students in Colorado speak 290 languages. In terms of funding emerging bilinguals, the chart below illustrates that school districts have averaged about \$200 per pupil over the past seven years.

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>State ELPA \$s (excluding PD)</u></b>	<b><u>Per Pupil Funding for ALL ELPA students</u></b>
FY 2016-17	\$18,785,784	\$148
FY 2017-18	\$19,903,952	\$155
FY 2018-19	\$21,498,056	\$168
FY 2019-20	\$22,994,436	\$184
FY 2020-21	\$24,105,549	\$197
FY 2021-22	\$24,582,666	\$224
FY 2022-23	\$25,257,334	\$386
FY 2023-24	\$31,293,891	\$286