



Colorado's School Funding Formula

Interim Committee on School Finance

Julie Pelegrin
Brita Darling
Office of Legislative Legal Services

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Base Per Pupil Funding

- The school finance formula begins with the **statewide base per pupil funding amount**.
- Amendment 23 requires base per pupil funding **increase annually by at least inflation**.
- Established in statute through the annual school finance bill.
- Base per pupil funding for FY 2019-20 is **\$6,951.53**, an increase of **2.7%** (\$182.76) from FY 2018-19.

Adjustments for District Characteristics

- The school finance formula **increases base per pupil funding** for districts that have:
 - a higher **cost of living**
 - smaller district **size**, as measured by pupil enrollment
- These factors do not decrease base per pupil funding for any district, they only increase it.

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Calculating Per Pupil Funding for Each District

[(Statewide Base × Personnel Costs Factor × Cost of Living Factor)

+

(Statewide Base × Nonpersonnel Costs Factor)]

×

Size Factor

= District Per Pupil Funding

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Funding Based on Student Characteristics

- **At-risk students**
 - Eligible for free lunch
 - Certain English language learners
 - Actual number or percentage
 - Students cannot be counted as both free lunch and an English language learner
 - 12% increase in per pupil funding + an additional percentage for districts with a higher than average percentage of at-risk students.

- **Multidistrict Online/Extended High School students**
 - Specific amount of funding per pupil (\$7,776 in FY 2019-20)

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Funded Pupil Count

- October Count - use the actual number for the current year, or an average of the current year and the last one, two, three, or four years, whichever is highest.
 - Will include students in full-day kindergarten programs.

- 0.58 for students in half-day kindergarten programs

- 0.5 for preschoolers (based on the CPP slots allocated)

- Multidistrict Online and Extended High School students

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District Total Program

Total Program Funding =

[(**Funded Pupil Count** - Multidistrict Online and Extended High School) × **District Per Pupil Funding**]

+

At-Risk Funding

+

Multidistrict Online/Extended High School Funding

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Budget Stabilization Factor

- Applied to total program funding
- Percentage reduction in total program funding to reflect the actual amount of funding **available** for the state share of total program.
- In FY 2019-20, the budget stabilization factor reduces total program by \$572.4 million (7.1%).
- Reduction applies only to state share of total program.

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District Per Pupil Revenue

District Per Pupil Revenue (known as PPR) =

District total program adjusted by BSF

District funded pupil count

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FY 2019-20 Formula Funding

- Statewide Funded Pupil Count = 894,569
- Total Program Funding After BSF = \$7.58 billion
- Average Per Pupil Revenue = \$8,476
(statewide total program / statewide funded pupil count)
- PPR ranges from \$7,995 to \$18,715 per district

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Other State Funding

- Categorical Funding
 - Special Education
 - Gifted and Talented
 - Vocational Education
 - English Language Proficiency
 - Small Attendance Centers
 - Comprehensive Health Education
 - Expelled and At-Risk Student Services
- State Grant Programs (BEST, specific purposes, etc.)

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Questions?

Julie Pelegrin (x2700)

Brita Darling (x2241)

Craig Harper (x3481)

Marc Carey (x4102)

Anna Gerstle (x4375)

Josh Abram (x3561)

First.last@state.co.us • (303) 866-phone

