

**Consortium of Directors of Special Education  
Overview of Possible Special Education Funding Scenarios  
Based on December 2019 Pupil Count**

<b>General Data</b>		
<b>Tier B Pupil Count</b> <i>*without state operated programs</i>	24,066	<i>(Increase of 1,203 students over 2018 count)</i>
<b>All Other Disabilities Count</b> <i>*without state operated programs</i>	84,415	<i>(Increase of 2,827 students over 2018 count)</i>
<b>Total 2019 Pupil Count (Tier A)</b> <i>*without state operated programs</i>	<b>108,481</b>	<i>(Total increase of 4,030 students over 2018 count)</i>
<b>Tier B Per Pupil Funding for 2020-21</b>		<b>\$2,628.93**</b>
<b>Tier B Per Student % of \$6000</b>		<b>43.8%</b>
<b>Percent of Tier B Students Fully Funded at \$6000</b>		<b>43.8%</b>

*\*State Operated Programs are the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, the Colorado Mental Health Institute in Pueblo, the Colorado Department of Corrections, and the Colorado Division of Youth Services. They do not receive funding directly from the Exceptional Children's Education Act (ECEA), as distributed by CDE. They are each funded through a line item for students with disabilities in the Long Bill.*

*\*\*SB 19-246 increased Tier B per pupil funding by \$22M resulting in an increase in the Tier B per pupil funding to \$2,835.13 for 2019/2020; the per pupil amount decreased to \$2,628.93 for 2020/2021 due to increased Tier A pupil count.*

<b>If Additional Funding Were Available, Based on December 2019 Pupil Count</b>					
<b>For All Students with Disabilities (Tier A)</b> <i>Listed on back of chart</i>					<b>108,481</b>
<b>Increase per student funding to \$1,500 per student</b> <i>Current funding of \$1250 per student, has not increased since 2006</i>			<b>\$27,120,250</b> <i>(108,481 x \$250)</i>		
<b>Double current per pupil funding to \$2,500 per student</b> <i>Current funding of \$1250 per student has not increased since 2006</i>			<b>\$135,601,250</b> <i>(108,481 x \$1250)</i>		
<b>For future years, annually increase Tier A per pupil funding by same percentage as applied to School Finance Act</b>					
<b>For Students with Disabilities also in Tier B</b> <i>Listed on back of chart</i>					<b>24,066</b>
Additional Funding	Per Pupil Amount	Current Per Pupil Amount	New Per Pupil Amount	Percentage of \$6,000 funded per student	Percentage of students fully funded at \$6,000
<b>\$20M</b>	<b>\$831.05</b>	<b>\$2,628.93</b>	<b>\$3,459.98</b>	<b>57.7%</b>	<b>57.7%</b>
<b>\$40M</b>	<b>\$1,662.10</b>	<b>\$2,628.93</b>	<b>\$4,291.03</b>	<b>71.5%</b>	<b>71.5%</b>
<b>\$60M</b>	<b>\$2,493.14</b>	<b>\$2,628.93</b>	<b>\$5,122.07</b>	<b>85.4%</b>	<b>85.4%</b>
<b>\$81,128,170.62</b>	<b>\$3,371.07</b>	<b>\$2,628.93</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Additional Information to Consider</b>					
Increasing the state share of special education funding for Tier A and Tier B will benefit all school districts in the state. Currently available figures (from FY 2019-20) show state share of special education expenditures at 20%, federal share at 14.85% and local districts covering 65.15% of actual costs from their local general fund dollars, diverting resources from other local education priorities.					
The Consortium recommends improving funding for Tiers A and B, rather than High Cost Pool in order to more fully benefit all school districts/administrative units in the state, assisting them in building capacity.					

**Disability Categories: (Tier A Funding for All Students with Disabilities)**

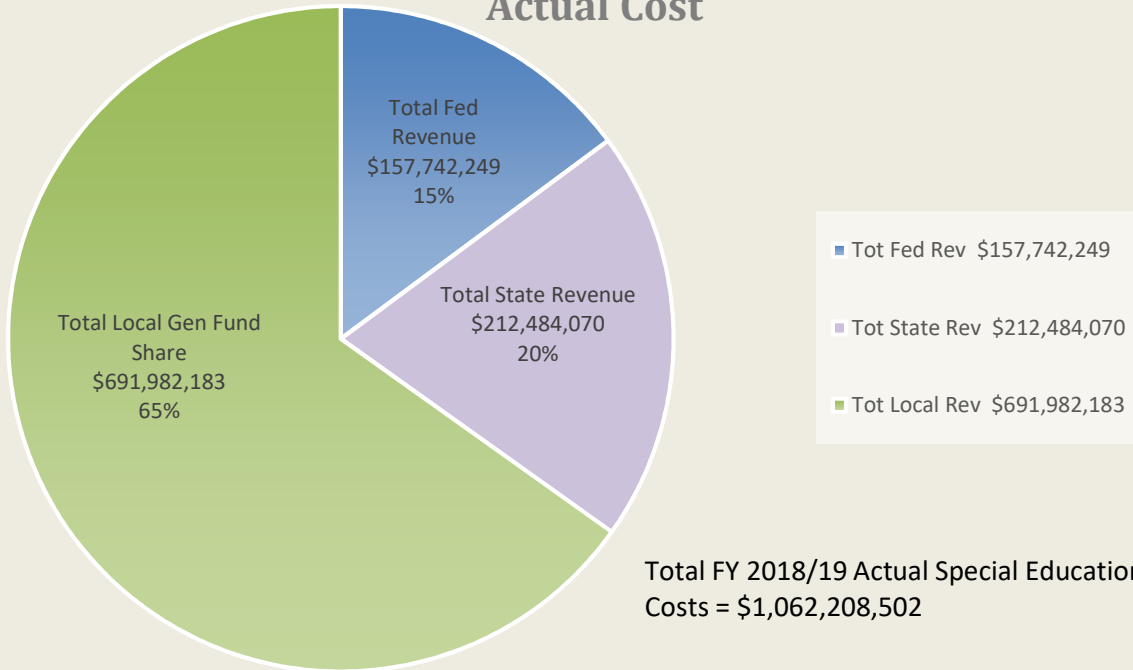
- Intellectual Disability
- Serious Emotional Disability
- Specific Learning Disability
- Hearing Impairment, including Deafness
- Visual Impairment, including Blindness
- Physical Disability
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Deaf-Blind
- Multiple Disabilities
- Preschooler with a Disability
- Infant/Toddler with a Disability
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment

**Tier B is comprised of students identified with the following disability categories:**

- Visual Impairment, including Blindness
- Hearing Impairment, including Deafness
- Deaf-Blind
- Serious Emotional Disability
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Multiple Disabilities
- Intellectual Disability

Additional information and detail is available through the Consortium of Directors of Special Education, by contacting Lucinda Hundley, (303) 378-7370 or [hundleylg0207@gmail.com](mailto:hundleylg0207@gmail.com)

## FY 2018/19 Actual Special Education Funding vs. Actual Cost



## FY 2018/19 Projected Impact to Local Share If State Share Tier B was Funded at \$6,000

