

OAR 581-023-0100

Eligibility Criteria for Student Weighting for Purposes of State School Fund Distribution

- (1) The following definitions apply to this rule:
 - (a) "Average Daily Membership" or "ADM" means the membership defined in ORS 327.006(3) and OAR 581-023-0006;
 - (b) "Days in Session" means number of days of instruction during which students are under the guidance and direction of teachers;
 - (c) "Department" means the Oregon Department of Education;
 - (d) "Language Minority Student" means:
 - (A) Individuals whose native language is not English; or
 - (B) Individuals who come from environments where a language other than English is dominant; or
 - (C) Individuals who are Native Americans or Native Alaskans and who come from environments where a language other than English has had a significant impact on their level of English proficiency.
 - (e) "Superintendent" means the State Superintendent of Public Instruction;
 - (f) "Weighted Average Daily Membership" or "ADMw" means the ADM plus an additional amount or weight as described in ORS 327.013.

- (2) Pursuant to ORS 327.013(7)(a)(A) the resident school districts shall receive one additional ADM or "weight" for children with disabilities who comprise up to 11 percent of the district's ADM. The Department will calculate the percentage of children with disabilities on the basis of resident counts of students eligible for weighting from the Special Education Child Count and the resident ADM:
 - (a) To be eligible, a student must be in the ADM of the school district and meet the following criteria:
 - (A) The student must be eligible for special education having been evaluated as having one of the following conditions: Intellectual disability, hearing impairment including difficulty in hearing and deafness, speech or language impairment, visual impairment, serious emotional disturbance, orthopedic or other health impairment, autism, traumatic brain injury or specific learning disabilities; and
 - (B) The student must be between the ages 5 and 21 and generate federal funding for purposes of special education.
 - (b) Districts may apply for an exception to the 11 percent ceiling. Applications are to be made on forms provided by the Department. Upon receipt of the application the Superintendent may conduct a complete review of a district's special education records. The Superintendent shall develop a process for conducting such reviews which will include the following elements:
 - (A) Comparison of district claims with those submitted by other districts;
 - (B) Participation of school district and education service district staff in the review. No district staff shall be asked to review claims submitted by the employing district.
 - (c) After considering the recommendations of the review committee the Superintendent may allow all or a portion of the requested added weighted ADM over 11 percent;
 - (d) The Superintendent shall make the determination of approval for funding above the 11 percent limitation. Such determination may be appealed for review by the State Board of Education according to a process established by the Superintendent;
 - (e) If the review indicates that a district has claimed ineligible special education students, the Superintendent also shall withhold the related federal funds from the district,

pursuant to OAR 581-015-2020;

- (f) A district must submit an application for an exception to the 11 percent ceiling no later than six months after the close of the year for which payment is being sought. Payments for allowable exceptions shall be made in the following school year as part of the May 15 payment.

(3) Pursuant to ORS 336.640(4), the resident school districts shall receive an additional 1.0 times the ADM of all eligible pregnant and parenting students:

- (a) To be eligible, a student must be in the ADM of the resident school district and meet the following criteria:
 - (A) The student must be identified through systematic procedures established by the district;
 - (B) The student must be enrolled and receiving services described in ORS 336.640(1)(b) and (d);
 - (C) The student must have an individualized written plan for such services which identifies the specific services, their providers, and funding resources.
- (b) Students counted in section (2) of this rule are not eligible under this section.