

MFP Task Force 2014-2015 Formula Recommendations Frequently Asked Questions

Recommendation 1: Increased base per pupil funding of 2.75 percent, yielding \$70 million

Is this a net increase for schools and school systems?

These funds replicate the \$69 million amount provided in the previous year and would now be built into the base per pupil funding rate in the formula.

I've read that the 2014-2015 formula yields \$150 million more for public schools. What is driving this increase?

The 2.75 percent increase in the base per pupil provides almost half of the increase at \$70 million. The remaining increase results from an increase in students, adjustments for local taxes, and new provisions including the High Cost Services Allocation, Supplemental Course Allocation, and Career and Technical Education Allocation, all detailed below.

Recommendation 2: \$7.5 million on Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA) funds for the cost of courses not traditionally offered by high schools

Which students are eligible for these courses?

All students at all public middle and high schools are eligible for SCA course offerings, provided the district declares them eligible and the course academically appropriate.

What courses generate funding?

All eligible courses can be found in the <u>SCA Catalog</u> on the LDOE website. Principals and counselors can contact the Counselor Assistance Center (CAC) at <u>SCA@la.gov</u> or 1-877-453-2721. Courses in the SCA Catalog include dual enrollment courses from all LCTCS institutions, including those taught on high school campuses.

On what basis do districts receive funds to cover these costs?

The MFP passed by BESE set supplemental course allocations to schools and school systems at \$26 per student for all students in grades 7 - 12. All LEAs (including districts and charter schools) will receive this allocation on a per student basis.

Recommendation 3: \$4 million for Career Development funds to cover courses leading to statewide industry credentials

On what basis do districts receive funds to cover these costs?

LEAs will receive the greater of: \$25,000 per school district (\$10,000 per charter or special school); or an additional six percent MFP weight multiplied by the total student enrollments in qualifying "technical" CTE courses leading to a statewide credential (on top of the traditional six percent weight for all CTE courses). These courses are aligned with high-demand pathways like construction crafts, healthcare, transportation, energy, and information technology: courses that are frequently more expensive to teach than standard academic courses.

What courses generate funding?

Schools can request a spreadsheet indicating the complete list of "technical" CTE courses by contacting jumpStart@la.gov.



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Recommendation 4: \$4 million for High Risk funds to support the education of students with the most significant disabilities

Which students generate funding?

Any student with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) who is currently receiving services that are deemed to be greater than three times the average per pupil expenditure is eligible to generate these funds. Districts can apply for the funding if the cost to educate the students exceeds \$33, 831.

How do districts apply for these funds?

The application will be included as a competitive application in the Unified Application accessed through the LDOE's electronic grant management system.

What is the formula for awarding these funds?

Applications will be funded based on the needs of the student, the cost to educate the student, the impact of the cost of services on the budget of the school system or school where the student is enrolled, and the availability of funds.

I've heard charter schools and small districts have a better chance of being funded. Is this true?

No. The allocation is divided into two separate pots of funding, one for city and parish school systems and one for other public schools. This split will be allocated *pro rata*, based on the proportion of total requests received from the schools systems and other public schools.