

**FEBRUARY PAYMENT INFORMATION**

The February state school aid payment is the fifth regular payment of the 2024 fiscal year. The payment will be electronically transferred to districts' accounts on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

**Taxable value** - The February payment continues to use the beginning 2023 tax roll non-homestead taxable value data, as provided by the county treasurers via the web based taxable valuation collection process by February 6, 2024. These data can be viewed by school district personnel on the [Department's Taxable Value Management System](#) website.

**Pupil membership** - October 2023 unaudited pupil count data reported to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) via the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) by January 22, 2024 were used in the calculation of the blended membership count for the February payment.

**2024-25 K-12 EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION**

Governor Whitmer has released the executive state aid budget recommendation for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Highlights include a \$241 target foundation increase to \$9,849 per pupil. More details can be found on the Michigan [legislature website](#).

**SECTION 99u IMAGINE LEARNING**

The Section 99u competitive grant process for funding 99u school licenses for Imagine Learning is complete. Districts will receive grant award information within the next week via email. Section 99u funding for those districts with successful applications was provided to districts approximately one week prior to the February State Aid payment. Questions may be directed to [OEESpecialPops@michigan.gov](mailto:OEESpecialPops@michigan.gov).

**SECTION 27I EDUCATOR COMPENSATION PROGRAM**

Payments for the Section 27I educator compensation program began with the January 2024 payment. Section 27I is an unusual categorical, in that it is fully based in formula and pays out at an equal amount per pupil. Similar to other formula-based payments, like 22a and 22b, there is no GAN issued, and no reporting is required. Since the amount paid is based on pupil membership, the amount you will see on the status report is based on January membership but will be adjusted to actual membership at the last FY2024 payment in August. These funds can be used to offset any increase in educator pay, even if that is the result of a collective bargaining agreement already in place. While this section does not include a definition of "educator", we find that Section 27k provides a helpful definition of "eligible participant". The 27k program is closely related, and added to the budget at the same time, so we are interpreting "educator" as "an individual... who is working 32 hours or more per week at a district or intermediate district in a role in which the individual works directly with pre-K to 12 students, including, but not limited to, educators, counselors, social workers, psychologists, reading specialists, librarians, and school administrators who work directly with students".

**FEBRUARY SPECIAL EDUCATION COST DATA**

Audited FY23 Special Education Cost data has been provided and is used in the February payment calculation. This revised cost data is used to calculate the FY23 prior year adjustment and serves as an estimate for FY24.

**SECTION 101 – SCHOOL DAY CANCELLATIONS AND FORGIVEN TIME**

Section 101 of the State School Aid Act (MCL 388.1701) remains the same as prior years regarding the cancellation of instructional time. The language continues to grant districts six (6) days and/or the equivalent number of hours to use toward cancellations that occur due to conditions beyond the control of school authorities, commonly referred to as "forgiven time" or "snow days." Language remains that grants the State Superintendent the authority to grant up to three (3) additional days or equivalent hours cancelled as instruction, provided the cancellation is due to unusual and extenuating circumstances resulting from conditions not within the control of school authorities.

A district that wishes to request additional forgiven time must provide strong rationale supporting why these days cannot be rescheduled before the end of the school year. Applications for additional forgiven time will only be accepted through the [online form](#). Questions regarding this item should be directed to

Jessica Beagle at [BeagleJ1@Michigan.gov](mailto:BeagleJ1@Michigan.gov).

### **BUDGET TRANSPARENCY REMINDERS**

March 1 is the deadline for updating Employee Compensation Information with 2023 calendar year data. A description and cost for each fringe benefit must be disclosed. Current year budgets/amendments must be posted within 15 days of board approval. Please send budget transparency questions to Chad Urchike at [UrchikeC1@michigan.gov](mailto:UrchikeC1@michigan.gov).

**Did you know?** In Spring 2024, Vendor Self Service (VSS) will have a new, streamlined user experience with the launch of SIGMA 4! After the upgrade, you will notice a more efficient and intuitive user interface as well as new functionality to support you. Watch for more information on the SIGMA VSS website in the coming months.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- February 14 was the FY 2024 Supplemental count date. The Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) records for the Supplemental count date are due to the Center by March 20, 2024 but may be recertified until March 27, 2024.
- The Section 22d(4) funds are being paid at \$58.1535383409 per pupil.
- The Headlee Obligation for Data Collection funds are being paid at a rate of \$29.2420998741 per pupil.
- The proration factor for Section 31a – At Risk funding is 32.65621632%.
- The proration factor for Section 29(7)– Enrollment Stabilization funding is 76.70400420%.

---

\*Do you have questions about the information appearing in this UPDATE? Call the consultants identified above or **Phil Boone, State Aid and School Finance, MDE**, cell phone: **517-899-0796**, fax: **517-241-0196**, e-mail: [BooneP2@Michigan.gov](mailto:BooneP2@Michigan.gov)