

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING: HOW, WHEN, AND WHAT ORDER TO SPEND

ESS PROGRAM MANAGEMENT APRIL 11, 2023

AGENDA

- Special Education Funding in Arizona
- 2. Maintenance of Effort Compliance
- 3. IDEA/ARP-IDEA Grant Funds
- 4. ESS Claims

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING IN ARIZONA

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING IN ARIZONA

Special education programs in Arizona are funded by a combination of state and federal funds.

State Aid is the primary funding source for most public education agencies (PEAs).

The federal IDEA Part B grants must be used only to pay the excess costs of providing special education and related services to children with disabilities; and must be used to supplement state, local, and other federal funds and not supplant those funds.

34 C.F.R. § 300.202 (a)

EXCESS COST REQUIREMENT FOR IDEA FUNDS

A public education agency (PEA) meets the excess cost requirement if it has spent at least a minimum average amount for the education of its children with disabilities before funds under Part B of the IDEA are used.

34 C.F.R. § 300.202 (b) (2) (ii)

STATE FUNDING: STATE AID

- Primary special education funding source facilitated through ADE School Finance
- Done through average daily membership (ADM) calculation through AzEDS (A.R.S. § 15-901)
- Calculated by the 100th or 200th day of the school district or charter's calendar
- Secure Care entities have alternative calculation methods
- In preschool, only students identified with HI, VI, DD, PSD, and SLI are eligible for funding

STATE FUNDING: STATE AID GROUP A

All students receive a Group A weight for SPED support on top of the base support level (A.R.S. § 15-943)

Grade/Program Range	Weight
Preschool	0.450
Kindergarten to 8 th grade	0.158
9 th grade to 12 th grade	0.105

STATE FUNDING: STATE AID GROUP B

- Nearly every SPED student will generate a Group B weight dependent on the specific category of eligibility
- Preschool students with DD or SLI only generate Group A and will not generate Group B add-on weights against the base support level
- Acts as another multiplier on top of the Group A weights in the prior slide

STATE FUNDING: STATE AID GROUP B WEIGHTS

Category	Weight
HI	4.771
MD-R, A-R, and SID-R	6.024
MD-SC, A-SC, and SID-SC	5.988
MD-SSI	7.947
OI-R	3.158
OI-SC	6.773
P-SD	3.595
DD, ED, MIID, SLD, SLI, and OHI	0.292
ED-P	4.822
MOID	4.421
VI	4.806

IDEA BASIC FY2022

651 Public Education Agencies

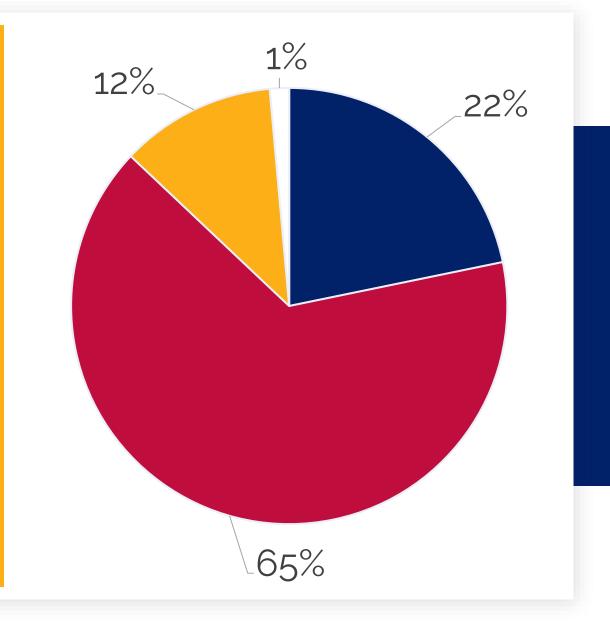
Base: \$45,947,295.00

Population: \$137,777,280.30

Poverty: \$24,313,637.70

Audit Repayment: \$ 3,013,29.29

Total: \$211,051,242.29



IDEA PRESCHOOL FY2022

452 Public Education Agencies

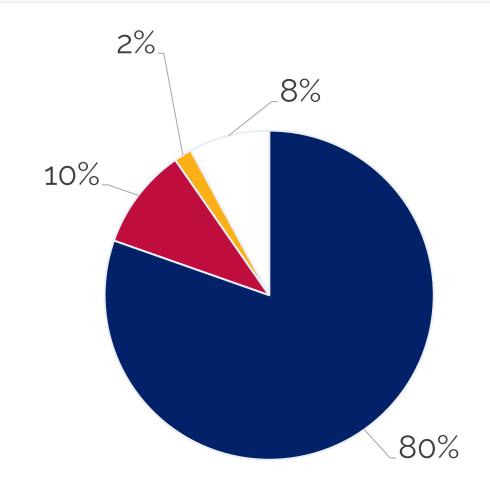
Base: \$3,756,686.00

Population: \$464,730.70

Poverty: \$82,011.30

Audit Repayment: \$ 369,690.89

Total: \$4,673,118.89



WHAT DOES SPED FUNDING LOOK LIKE IN PEAS ACROSS ARIZONA?

			FY21 Student	State to
PEA Name	FY21 State Expenses	FY21 IDEA Basic	Count	Federal \$
Mesa Unified District	\$73,317,576.00	\$11,374,338.45	8969.0587	\$6.45
Tucson Unified District	41,361,917.00	9,730,754.14	5537.6097	4.25
Dysart Unified District	38,469,896.00	3,817,485.26	3266.4817	10.08
Phoenix Union High School District	28,323,155.00	5,788,778.75	3111.0697	4.89
Scottsdale Unified District	21,935,350.00	4,093,136.00	1934.2559	5.36
Kyrene Elementary District	20,127,534.00	2,923,075.67	1699.435	6.89
Tempe School District	15,196,506.00	2,468,302.68	1468.7456	6.16
Tempe Union High School District	10,775,097.00	2,301,467.13	1144.1949	4.68
Roosevelt Elementary District	10,281,992.00	1,847,764.72	1034.0662	5.56
Pendergast Elementary District	7,964,995.00	1,791,040.84	995.1567	4.45
Agua Fria Union High School District	8,314,153.00	1,233,095.21	878.2692	6.74
Avondale Elementary District	6,589,094.00	957,685.57	812.988	6.88
Buckeye Elementary District	8,454,458.00	817,664.41	785.7774	10.34
Cave Creek Unified District	7,149,351.00	923,679.74	700.3928	7.74
Littleton Elementary District	6,966,558.00	985,103.84	682.1607	7.07

WHAT DOES SPED FUNDING LOOK LIKE IN PEAS ACROSS ARIZONA? (CONTINUED)

			FY21 Student	State to
PEA Name	FY21 State Expenses	FY21 IDEA Basic	Count	Federal \$
Humboldt Unified District	6,035,616.00	1,142,737.81	622.656	5.28
Madison Elementary District	6,425,045.00	1,111,147.89	482.9004	5.78
Somerton Elementary District	2,485,917.00	594,020.92	337.4923	4.18
Bullhead City School District	1,316,662.00	551,936.06	294.4701	2.39
Pima Unified District	993,222.00	160,120.49	183.0914	6.20
Nadaburg Unified School District	1,058,407.00	225,524.24	162.5894	4.69
Miami Unified District	1,237,896.00	232,784.11	153.7023	5.32
Fit Kids, Inc. dba Champion Schools	86,272.00	222,744.38	116.2706	0.39
North Star Charter School, Inc.	126,097.00	141,089.28	115.359	0.89
Wilson Elementary District	980,135.00	242,071.55	87.4854	4.05
Joseph City Unified District	435,250.00	118,918.31	65.215	3.66
Western School of Science and Technology, Inc.	234,655.00	84,522.49	58.565	2.78

WHAT DOES SPED FUNDING LOOK LIKE IN PEAS ACROSS ARIZONA? (CONTINUED)

			FY21 Student	State to
PEA Name	FY21 State Expenses	FY21 IDEA Basic	Count	Federal \$
Palo Verde Elementary District	557,246.00	76,414.44	45.4216	7.29
Pioneer Preparatory School	339,320.00	82,127.62	44.845	4.13
Superior Unified School District	158,875.00	73,752.68	43.8362	2.15
Maricopa County Regional School District	95,247.00	133,621.27	35.9658	0.71
Painted Desert Demonstration Projects, Inc.	101,716.00	19,590.45	24	5.19
Daisy Education Corporation dba. Sonoran Science	99,504.00	25,152.67	20.56	3.96
Southwest Leadership Academy	11,210.00	51,893.13	18.5723	0.22
Edkey, Inc Redwood Academy	127,553.00	50,181.76	18.312	2.54
Imagine Camelback Middle, Inc.	119,849.00	35,709.74	17.44	3.36
Bowie Unified District	87,695.00	19,705.75	17.17	4.45
BASIS Charter Schools, Inc.	141,569.00	109,637.36	15.94	1.29
Coconino County Accommodation School District	152,378.00	14,371.60	14.2435	10.60

CALCULATING EXCESS COSTS

Beginning in FY24, the ESS Program Management team will help PEAs calculate the Excess costs for their students following the rules from <u>Appendix A to Part 300 – Excess Cost Calculation.</u>

These trainings will begin in Fall 2023.

IDEA MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT

HOW DOES STATE SPENDING AFFECT THE PEA'S ACCESS TO FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS?

FY23 IDEA MOE COMPLIANCE TESTS

The MOE Compliance test closed on March 31. PEAs are encouraged to log into the system to print the submission details report to record the compliance test results that will be used toward the FY23 AFR and YF24 Budget preparations.

Status	Number of PEAs
Closed Met	390
Closed Met with Exceptions	47
Closed Pending Repayment	11
Pending Met	98
Pending Not Met	54
Total	600

PRINTING SUBMISSION DETAILS REPORT

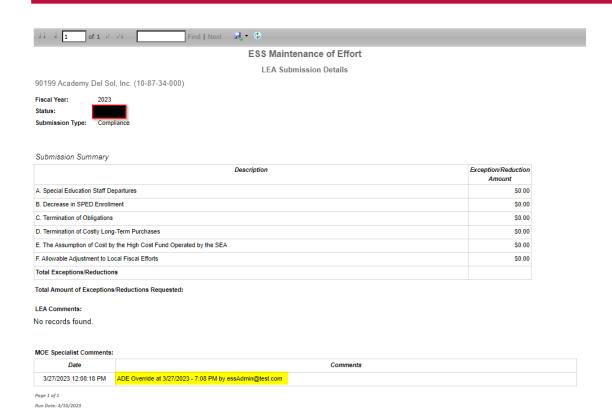


LEAs are required to review the test results to confirm information is accurate with local records. The 2022 values were pulled from page 8 of the AFR for school Districts and page 7 of the AFR for Charter Schools and reflect expenditures for All Disability Classifications and Transportation related to students with IEPs (Lines 1 and 10, and lines 1 and 9, respectively).

EA Submission Details	LEA Submission Detail
iscal Year:	Fiscal Year:
ubmission Type: Compliance	Submission Type:
	Submission Type: Compliance

Log into the ESS portal and enter the MOE application.
Choose LEA Activities → LEA
Submission Details
Run the 2023 Compliance report.
Click Run Report.

SUBMISSION DETAILS REPORT



The report can be exported to PDF for your records.

If your PEA Submitted test results, there should be a comment from the MOE Specialist giving the numbers that should be used for MOE Compliance thresholds.

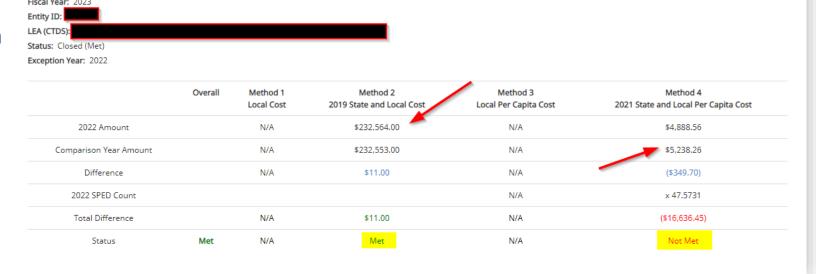
VIEW MOE COMPLIANCE TEST RESULTS

PEAs can also print out test results showing comparison years and compliance values.

Click on LEA Activities -> Compliance to see your results.

IDEA Fund Compliance Test

Note, if the method did not pass, you must use the older comparison year amount, not the 2022 amount.



MOE COMPLIANCE STANDARDS AND THE BUDGET PLANNING TOOL

The MOE Compliance test results can be plugged into the 2023-204 Budget Planning tool, https://bit.ly/24BudgetPlanning.

You'll need the MOE test results and your 2023 SPED 20 report (SPED ADM count) from AzEDS.

State M&O Budget Value should reflect your most recent comparison year value for method 2 or method 4 as established on the FY23 IDEA Maintenance of Effort Compliance test, March 2023.					
FY23 MOE Compliance Method 2 Value:	\$ 232,564.00				
		x SPED20 Count for			
FY23 MOE Compliance Method 4 Value:	\$ 5,238.26	FY23	42.294	=	\$ 221,546.97
MOE Compliance Standard	\$ 221,546.97				

2023-2024 BUDGET PLANNING

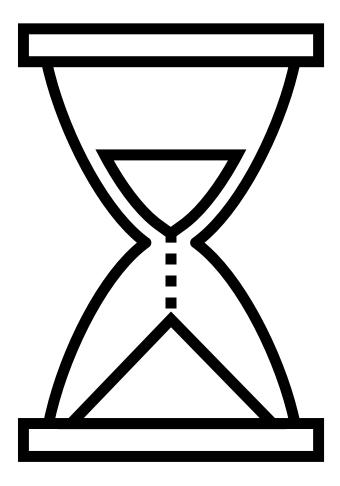
2023-2024 Budget	PEA Name				
	Amount for	FY24	Expiration of funds	What PEA currently has budgeted (03/01/2023)	
			5/20/2024		State & Local funds that must be spent to maintain
State M&O Budget	\$	221,546.97	6/30/2024		MOE Compliance
Section 611 FY23 Carryover			9/30/2024		Carryover must be spent by 9/30/24 or it will be forfeited to US Department of Education
Section 619 FY23 Carryover			9/30/2024		Carryover must be spent by 9/30/24 or it will be forfeited to US Department of Education
Section 611 FY24	\$	71,697.00	9/30/2025		normal IDEA activities, 100% of this grant can roll over to FY25
Section 619 FY24			9/30/2025		normal IDEA activities, 100% of this grant can roll over to FY25
Total Available to Spend	\$	293,243.97		\$ -	
Federal Dollars	\$	71,697.00		\$ -	
Section 611 (Basic) ages 3-21	\$	71,697.00		\$ -	
Section 619 (Preschool) ages 3-5,					
including Kindergarten	\$	-		\$ -	

FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS

IDEA PART B CONSOLIDATED AND ARP-IDEA CONSOLIDATED-ENTITLEMENT GRANTS

HOW DOES A PEA PRIORITIZE SPENDING?

- State and local funds (M&O funds that are used to calculate Maintenance of Effort)
- 2. IDEA Preschool carryover
- 3. IDEA Basic Carryover
- 4. IDEA Section 619 (Preschool) current year allocation
- 5. IDEA Section 611 (Basic) current year allocation
- 6. Additional ESS Special Education Funds (High-Cost Child or Extraordinary Special Education Needs Fund)



HOW DOES A SPED DIRECTOR PLAN A BUDGET?

- Work closely with your Business Manager
- Know your MOE Compliance spending amounts
- Evaluate needs for staff, services, and supplies/equipment
- Determine which funding source may be used to pay for a given cost
 - Fixed costs: Salaries/Benefits, contracted vendors
 - Variable or one-time purchases: Capital purchases, supplies, contracted vendors
- Consider additional funding sources
 - Desegregation Funds
 - Impact Aid
 - Medicaid School-Based Claims
 - Additional Federal Grants (COVID-19 Relief funds, ESSER III to expire in September 2024)
 - ESS Claims: HCC or ESEN

IDEA AND ARP-IDEA ALLOCATIONS

Grant	2023	2024*
IDEA Section 611 (Basic)	\$213,718,248.77	\$194,048,959.71
IDEA Section 619 (Preschool)	\$4,692,015.00	\$4,194,114.06
ARP-IDEA Basic	\$30,935,568.76	N/A
ARP-IDEA Preschool	\$2,060,780.02	N/A

*The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has yet to release the federal award amounts for FY2024. These amounts are the preliminary award and will be updated in November 2023.

2023 Allocations: http://bit.ly/FY2023PS

2024 Allocations: https://bit.ly/FY2024PS

EXCESS COST REQUIREMENTS FOR IDEA

For a particular cost to be allowed, it must be an excess cost of providing special education and related services. Only allowed costs may be charged to the flow-through or preschool entitlement grants.

When determining whether a budget item does not supplant those funds, ask the following guiding questions:

In the absence of special education needs, would this cost exist?

If the answer is...

- No, then the cost is an excess cost and may be eligible.
- Yes, then the cost is not an excess cost and is not allowed.

Is this cost also generated by students without disabilities?

If the answer is...

- No, then the cost is an excess cost and may be eligible.
- Yes, then the cost is not an excess cost and is not allowed.

If it is a child-specific service, is the service documented in the student's IEP?

If the answer is...

- Yes, then the cost is an excess cost and may be eligible.
- No, then the cost is not an excess cost and is not allowed.

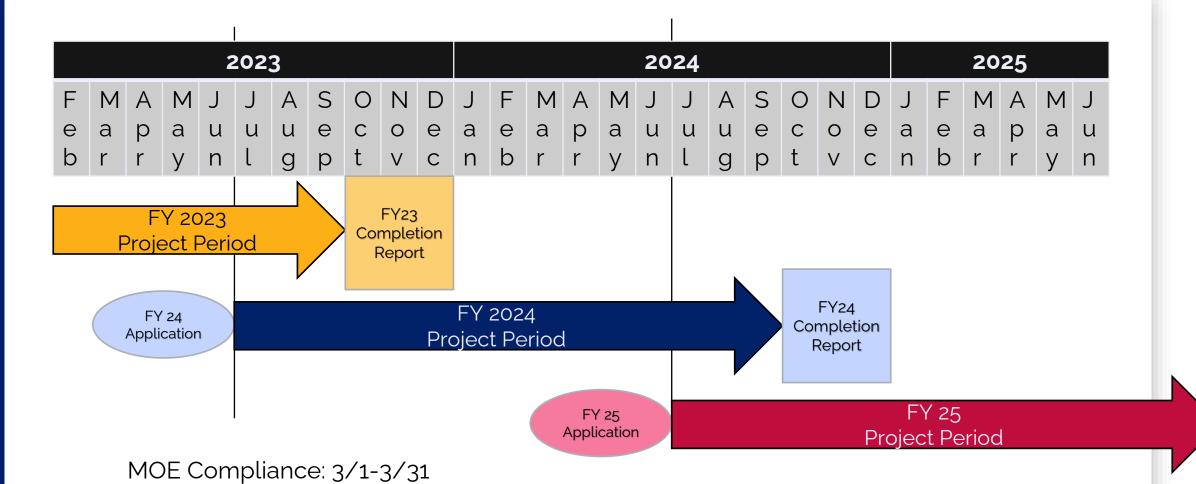
IDEA FUNDS TO EXPIRE BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Grant	Amount Unpaid	Percentage Paid to Date
2022 ARP-IDEA Basic	\$23,182,188	25.06%
2022 ARP-IDEA Preschool	\$1,705,870	17.22%
2022 IDEA Basic	\$18,075,931	65.87%
2022 IDEA Preschool	\$920,585	46.53%

Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2023, and completely liquidated by December 30, 2023, to avoid returning unspent carryover funds to the U.S. Department of Education.

PEAs should check Project Summary Data for IDEA Consolidated-Entitlement and ARP-IDEA Consolidated-Entitlement grants in the GME.

TIMELINE OF IDEA GRANTS



MOE Compliance: 3/1-3/31 MOE Eligibility: 7/18-8/15

PLANNING FOR REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

Percentage of Allocation Paid Out	Q1 7/1/23- 9/30/23	Q2 10/1/23- 12/31/23	Q3 1/1/24- 3/31/24	Q4 4/1/24- 6/30/24	Q5 7/1/24- 9/30/24
12-month fiscal period	25%	50%	75%	100%	n/a
15-month fiscal period	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%

IDEA grant funds operate on a 15-month project period, with 12-month carryover, for a total of 27 months for obligation. IDEA grant funds must be liquidated (through CR process) 120 days after the expiration of the funds.

If you anticipate having carryover of your 2023 IDEA grants, you must ensure the carryover amount is fully drawn down by 9/30/2024 to prevent any funds from expiring and being returned to U.S. ED.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

The Grants Management Fiscal Processing team is responsible for reviewing reimbursement requests.

There are resources available for your Business Manager to review.

- Reimbursement Request Overview 3/18/2021 Webinar Recording
- Reimbursement Request Handbook

The PEA should submit aim to submit 1 reimbursement per quarter, 2 at a minimum for the whole year.

Corrective action may be required if the PEA requests the full allocation through the completion report.

ALLOCATIONS: PEA VIEW

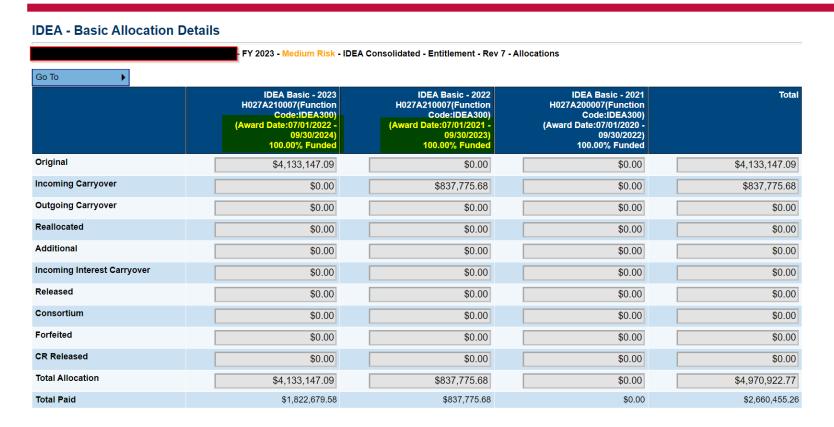
Allocations



	(1) IDEA Basic	(2) IDEAPRES	Total
	CFDA: 84.027A	CFDA: 84.173A	
Original	\$4,133,147.09	\$54,860.67	\$4,188,007.76
Incoming Carryover	\$837,775.68	\$40,690.40	\$878,466.08
Outgoing Carryover	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reallocated	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Additional	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Incoming Interest Carryover	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Released	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Consortium	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Forfeited	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CR Released	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$4,970,922.77	\$95,551.07	\$5,066,473.84

- Original amounts are funds from the current fiscal year.
- Incoming carryover funds may include funds from prior fiscal years.

ALLOCATION DETAILS: SPECIALIST VIEW



ADE Specialists are able to see a more detailed view with project periods listed for each fiscal year.

PROJECT SUMMARY VIEW



PFAs can view important fiscal info on the Project Summary page of the funding application. Items to note: Project period start and end dates. substantial approval date, and most recent approval date (SEA Director).

PROJECT SUMMARY VIEW: FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Sources					
Grant - Award Year	IDEA Basic - 2023	IDEA Basic - 2022	IDEA Basic - 2021	Total	
Award Number	H027A210007	H027A210007	H027A200007		
Award Date	07/01/2022 - 09/30/2024	07/01/2021 - 09/30/2023	07/01/2020 - 09/30/2022		
Original	\$4,133,147.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,133,147.09	
Incoming Carryover	\$0.00	\$837,775.68	\$0.00	\$837,775.68	
Outgoing Carryover	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Reallocated	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Additional	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Incoming Interest Carryover	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Released	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Consortium	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Forfeited	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
CR Released	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Allocation	\$4,133,147.09	\$837,775.68	\$0.00	\$4,970,922.77	

The PEA view of allocations from the Project Summary Page includes the award dates for each fiscal year fund.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS: PEA USE CASE

Reimbursement Request Summary

Y 2023 - Medium Risk - IDEA - Basic

Project Information			
Project Number	23FESCBG-311267-09A		
C.F.D.A. Number	84.027A		
Initial Substantially Approved Date	7/1/2022		
Project Begin Date	7/1/2022		
Project End Date	9/30/2023		
Allocation	\$4,970,922.77		
Available Budget	\$4,970,922.77		
Project Status	Normal [Hold] [<u>History</u>]		
LEA Hold Status	No Hold Exists		
Allow Carryover	True		

Reimbursement Requests				
#	Amount	Request Period	Status	Status Date
7	\$281,225.70	February 28, 2023	ADE Accounting System Paid	March 18, 2023
6	\$389,653.07	January 31, 2023	ADE Accounting System Paid	February 26, 2023
5	\$295,627.63	December 31, 2022	ADE Accounting System Paid	January 28, 2023
4	\$308,522.49	November 30, 2022	ADE Accounting System Paid	December 18, 2022
3	\$324,514.86	October 31, 2022	ADE Accounting System Paid	November 27, 2022
2	\$343,007.36	<u>September 30, 2022</u>	ADE Accounting System Paid	October 23, 2022
1	\$717,904.15	August 31, 2022	ADE Accounting System Paid	September 17, 2022

In this example, the PEA's 2022 Completion Report was approved on 11/3/2022. Every reimbursement after that date was paid from the 2022 carryover funds. All reimbursement requests prior to 11/3/2022 were paid from the current year allocation (FY 2023)

EXAMPLE OF REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

Percentage of allocation paid out	Q1 7/1/22- 9/30/22	Q2 10/1/22- 12/31/22	Q3 1/1/23- 3/31/23	Q4 4/1/23- 6/30/23	Q5 7/1/23- 9/30/23
12-month fiscal period	25%	50%	75%	100%	n/a
15-month fiscal period	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
PEA Example	1 RR \$717,904.15	3 RRs \$976,044.71	3 RRs \$966,506.40	-	-
PEA Percent paid to date	14.44%	34.08%	53.52%	-	-
PEA Dollars Paid to date	\$717,904.15	\$1,693,948.86	\$2,660,455.26	-	-
Using 15- month fiscal period	\$994,184.55	\$1,988,369.11	\$2,982,553.66	\$3,976,738.21	\$4,970,922.77

EXPIRING FUNDS: CARRYOVER

Federal grants have a 27-month life cycle to obligate funds and 3 months to liquidate.

If 2022 IDEA funds aren't completely drawn down via reimbursement by 06/30/2023, plan to submit the completion report no later than 10/31/2023.

Grants Management must approve the completion report by 12/30/2023. There are almost 3,000 funding applications that must have completion reports approved by this date. ESS recommends that PEAs submit completion reports early to meet the deadline.

REVISIONS FOR IDEA PART B FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The IDEA funding application requires a revision:

- Any time there is a change of SPED Director or Finance office contact (change Organization Contacts),
- When the scope of work has changed,
- Educator IDs have changed or personnel has shifted
- To waive funds, if necessary

FEDERAL FISCAL MONITORING TRENDS

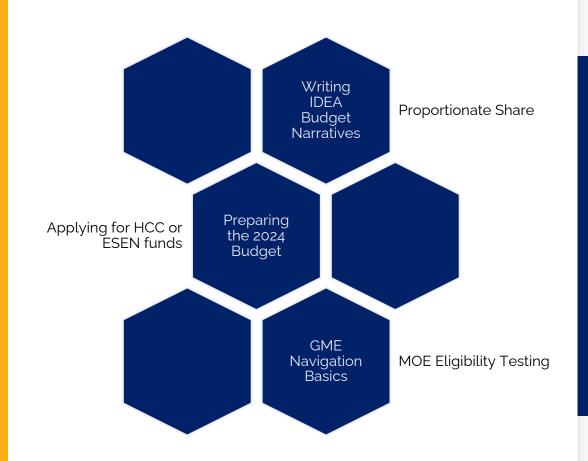
Questionable and Disallowed Costs

- SPED teachers with expired certificates or certificates that are ineligible for IDEA funding
- Consultants/Vendors that do not align with budget narratives
- Supplies that do not align with budget narratives
- Capital purchases that do not align with COW
- Travel costs that do not align with budget narratives

Revise your Budgets as your scope of work changes!

OFFICE HOURS TOPICS

Please type in the chat the topics you would like to see for ESS Program
Management's Office Hours.



ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

ESS CLAIMS: HIGH-COST CHILD AND ESEN

HCC vs ESEN

HCC VS ESEN			
	HCC	ESEN	
Available funds in FY23	\$3 Million	\$5 Million, \$3.3 Million Remaining	
Max approved for each PEA	\$100,000	\$250,000	
Approval periods	4 rounds in 2022-2023		
MOE Exception E applies	Yes	No	
PEA can reimburse total cost of student	Yes	No (PEA must deduct state aid generated by student from claim request)	
ADE Reporting Requirements to Legislature	N/A	 Annually on 12/15 # of claims funded in prior year How PEAs spent money # of claims requested in prior year 	
Eligible PEAs	IDEA Eligible PEAs (districts, secure care, and non-profit charters)	Districts and Charters, including for-profit charters	

EXAMPLES OF APPROVED HIGH-COST CHILD CLAIMS

- Tuition and fees to approved-private day schools (tuition, related services, transportation)
- Interpreters for HI students
- Contracted nursing
- Additional instructional personnel (1:1 aides, new SC classroom teacher)
- Related service providers

High-Cost Child and Extraordinary Special Education Needs Fund Applications

- PowerPoint Presentation
- •Zoom Recording Link
- •ESS Claims Summary Template

FY23 ESS Program Management Webinar Series

FY23 Webinar Series

Join the ESS Program
Management team at the FY22
webinar series. Webinars will take
place via Zoom from 11:00 a.m. to
12:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of
each month.

May 9 - Fiscal Year Wrap-Up

ESS Office Hours

ESS Program Management will also host Office Hours each quarter at 1:00 p.m. PEAs are invited to attend these informal Zoom meetings to bring questions directly to their program specialist.

- April 18, 2023
- May 16, 2023

CONTACT ESS PM SPECIALIST

PEA Name Starts with	Program Specialist	Phone Number
A-C	Nancy Chavarin	602-542-3270
D-K	<u>Tanya Rodriguez</u>	602-542-4610
L-Q	<u>Carol Bush</u>	602-542-4615
R-Z	<u>Candice Trainor</u>	602-542-3398

CONTACT US

ESS Program Management website:

http://www.azed.gov/specialeducation/operations

ESS Program Management inbox:

essprogmgmt@azed.gov

ESS Office Hours, April 18, 2023, 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Fiscal Year Wrap-Up, May 9, 2023, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.