



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

March 11, 2016

Dear charter LEA leaders:

I am pleased to announce that the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) has worked with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and others to ensure charter LEAs receive more detailed and timely supplemental payments.

Over the course of a school year, public charter schools in the District are entitled to receive additional funds for those students who receive new or changed designations after the District's annual enrollment audit report:

- new or increased individualized education plan (IEP) levels;
- new limited English proficiency (LEP) designations; and
- new at-risk designations.

Historically, OSSE has provided supplemental payments during the conclusion of school years, between late April and the middle of July. Beginning with the current 2015-16 school year, OSSE will be providing these payments under an accelerated timeframe to augment public charter schools' financial stability and to reduce administrative burden. OSSE will also enable each public charter school to access the specific demographic data used to calculate supplemental payment amounts via a statement posted to the online, secure FTP folder for each LEA. Please see the Excel attachment accompanying this document for a template of the statement you will receive no later than Friday, March 18. We will email your staff to notify them when the statements have been uploaded via SFTP. In school year 2015-2016, OSSE will make supplemental payments in three installments—the first payment will be made by March 15th, the second payment will be made by May 15th, and the final payment will be made by June 30th.

I have also attached here a document detailing OSSE's procedures in preparing the first supplemental payment to be made by March 15th. Please see the following page for additional information.

Alongside this information, OSSE is additionally providing guidance from the Deputy Mayor for Education's office regarding the inclusion of at-risk students within the regular uniform per student funding formula payments for school year 2015-2016. Please see the third page of this document for additional information.

I am excited to be able to improve this process for public charter schools in the District. If you have questions or feedback, please contact Andy Eisenlohr, special assistant for budget and finance, at andrew.eisenlohr@dc.gov or feel free to reach out to me directly.

Sincerely,

Hanseul Kang
State Superintendent

School year 2015-16 first supplemental payment details

By March 15, 2016, charter schools will receive the first supplemental payment for school year 2015-2016 under the District's uniform per student funding formula (UPSFF). This supplemental payment addresses certain changes in student demographic data between October 6, 2015 and February 10, 2016. As outlined in the first page of this document, OSSE is providing additional funding for those students who receive new or changed designations after the District's annual enrollment audit report:

- new or increased individualized education plan (IEP) levels made by February 10, 2016;
- new limited English proficiency (LEP) designations made by February 10, 2016; and
- new at-risk designations made by February 10, 2016.

New or increased IEP levels

For new or increased IEP levels, OSSE is making payment based on the first date of new service and, in the case of an increase to an existing IEP, is considering only the highest IEP level achieved by February 10, 2016. OSSE has prorated the annual amount owed under the District's UPSFF from the first date of new service to February 10, 2016. For students with new IEPs, schools are additionally entitled to the Attorney's Fees Supplement and Blackman-Jones Compliance amounts, again prorated from the first date of new service to February 10, 2016. These calculations are consistent with last year's methodology. The below table summarizes the UPSFF amounts for special education students in school year 2015-2016:

UPSFF Category	School year 2015-2016 amount per pupil
Special Education Level 1	\$9,207
Special Education Level 2	\$11,390
Special Education Level 3	\$18,699
Special Education Level 4	\$33,127
Residential Special Education Level 1	\$3,493
Residential Special Education Level 2	\$12,691
Residential Special Education Level 3	\$27,441
Residential Special Education Level 4	\$27,441
Attorney's Fees Supplement	\$845
Blackman-Jones Compliance	\$655

New LEP designations

For new LEP designations, OSSE is making payment for all students who appeared with a status of LEP for at least 50% of the days the student was enrolled at the charter organization within the reporting period (October 6, 2015 – February 10, 2016), consistent with last year's methodology. For these students, OSSE is providing the full annual UPSFF per pupil amount of **\$4,651**.

New at-risk designations

For new at-risk designations (those students identified outside of the District's annual enrollment audit report), OSSE is making payment for all students who appeared with a status of at-risk for at least 25% of the days the student was enrolled at the charter organization within the reporting period (October 6, 2015 – February 10, 2016). For these students, OSSE is providing the full annual UPSFF per pupil amount of **\$2,079**.

As stated above, the specific demographic data used to calculate supplemental payment amounts will be made available via a statement posted to the online, secure FTP folder for each LEA.