

MAEP Add-on Programs

General Procedures

The different departments will submit estimates when the budget amounts are initially calculated for MAEP appropriation request, which usually occurs two years prior to the actual period. Once it is time for request for payments to be submitted, the different MDE departments will submit actual data to the School Financial Services offices to be processed for payment.

University Based Programs

The University Based program is available when 5 or more children under 21 years of age who because of deafness, aphasia, emotional disturbance and/or other low-incidence conditions, are unable to have their educational needs met in a regular public school program, and a special education program in their particular areas of exceptionality is not available in their respective local public school districts, a state-supported university or college shall be authorized and empowered, in its discretion, to provide a program of education, instruction and training to such children, provided that such program shall operate under rules, regulations, policies and standards adopted by the State Department of Education as provided for in Section 37-23-33. (MS Code Section 37-23-31(1)).

University Based Programs is administered by MDE's Office of Special Education (OSE). University Based programs (UBP) submit required forms for requesting Special Education MAEP teacher units for the current school year by September 1. Per review of the applications, OSE determines the teacher units that should be awarded and notifies the UBP. The UBP submits a child count by December 31 to support the teacher units requested. The UBP is allowed to make any necessary adjustments to their original submitted documents. OSE staff reviews the UBP reimbursement documents and approves the final teacher units for reimbursement. UBPs are awarded funds based on the state teacher salary schedule for teachers whose employment and years of experience has been reported by the facility and verified by the MDE OSE. This information is reported by the MDE OSE to School Financial Services (SFS) for reimbursement.

Non-Public Section 504 Programs

Section 504 is a private school providing an instructional education program which is operated as an integral part of a state licensed facility may request funding for teacher units.

Non-Public Section 504 program is administered by MDE's Office of Special Education (OSE). Eligible Section 504 facilities submit required forms for requesting Special Education MAEP teacher units for the current school year by September 1. Only students with a current active 504 plan developed within one year may be included in the application for teacher units. Per review of the applications, OSE staff determines the teacher units that should be awarded and notifies the 504 facility. The facilities submit any necessary adjustments to the original documents by December 31. Eligible facilities are awarded funds based on the state teacher salary schedule

for teachers whose employment and years of experience has been reported by the facility and verified by the OSE. This information is reported by the OSE to SFS for reimbursement.

Extended School Year (ESY)

ESY is the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities in accordance with their individualized education program (IEP) beyond the normal school year of the local district and at no cost to the parents of the students. The need for an ESY program must be considered for all students ages 3 through 20, with current eligibility, and with a current IEP. *MDE Policy Manual Rule 74.12 & MDE ESY Handbook*

ESY is administered by MDE's Office of Special Education (OSE). Each LEA who has students found eligible for ESY services must complete and submit an application which can be found at <https://www.mdek12.org/OSE/funding/special-education-extended-school-year>. OSE staff reviews and approves the applications and sends notification to the LEA. Once the LEA receives MDE's notice of approval, the LEA submits a request of reimbursement with an expense report to the OSE by close of business September 30. OSE staff reviews and approves the request for reimbursement. After OSE's approval, the information regarding funding awarded to each participating LEA is sent to SFS.

Education Scholarship Accounts (ESA)

The ESA program was created by the Equal Opportunity for Students with Special Needs Act in 2015 and provides an opportunity for parents of children with disabilities to receive money to help defray the cost of private school tuition or other specific allowable expenses to educate their child. (Mississippi Code Ann. §37-181-1 et. Seq). Eligible students are those who reside in Mississippi and have an active Individualized Education Program (IEP) within three (3) years from the date of application. An active IEP is an IEP developed by a public school district where the student was enrolled and received special education or related services outlined in the IEP.

The program is being administered by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Office of Special Education (OSE). Upon implementation the scholarship was the amount of the base student cost under section 37-151-7(1)(b). In subsequent years, the award amount shall increase/decrease by the same proportion as the base student cost under Section 37-151-7(1)(b). The amount of available scholarships is based on the net appropriation less 6% administrative costs divided by the number the award amount. Applications that are determined eligible, will be awarded an ESA on a first-come, first-served basis.

Nate Rogers Speech Language Scholarship

Nate Rogers Speech Language Scholarship was established to provide a scholarship to a nonpublic school of choice, for students with an eligibility ruling of a speech-language impairment. Students in kindergarten through Grade 6 or its equivalent who have been properly evaluated and received an eligibility ruling of speech-language impairment shall be eligible to receive scholarship assistance under this program. (MS Code Section 37-175-3)

This program is administered by MDE's Office of Special Education (OSE). Speech/Language (Nate Rogers) is based on the per-pupil amount that districts receive based on their December 1 count. The OSE reports to SFS how many students are enrolled at the beginning of the year and student attendance. Continued enrollment is verified monthly before payments are sent out by SFS.

University Based Special Needs Transportation Not administered by OSE

In the event that a state-supported university or college provides a special education program for children from any school district that is unable to meet the educational needs of those children, then the university based program shall be eligible for funding. *MDE Policy Manual Rule 74.6*

University Based Special Needs Transportation program is administered by MDE's Office of Safe and Orderly Schools. Eric Foster, Division Director II of MDE's Office of Accountability submits program expenditures to SFS.

Bus Driver Training Not administered by OSE

MDE hires contract workers to provide training to accredited public and nonpublic school bus drivers in accordance with MS Code Ann. Section 37-41-1. The bus driver instructor works approximately 10 weeks annually, the first 5 weeks of the fiscal year and the last five weeks of the fiscal year.

Bus Driver Training program is administered by MDE's Office of Safe and Orderly Schools. Brian McGairty, Director of MDE's Office of Safe and Orderly School submits program expenditures to SFS.

Dyslexia Scholarship Not administered by OSE

~~Dyslexia Scholarship allows children with dyslexia to receive vouchers to attend accredited private and public schools that provide dyslexia therapy. Students in Grades 1 through 12 who have been properly screened and diagnosed with dyslexia shall be eligible to receive scholarship assistance under this program. (MS Code Section 37-173-3)~~

~~Dyslexia Scholarship is administered by MDE's Office Elementary Education & Reading. Staff verifies that the application submitted for the Dyslexia Scholarship by the parent includes the following: a diagnosis of dyslexia from an approved professional; and an enrollment letter from the Non-public Special Purpose School. In August, OSE submits the approved enrollment lists from the Non-public Special Purpose Schools to SFS. At the end of each subsequent month, edits of students who have withdrawn or newly enrolled students are submitted to the SFS to keep the enrollment lists current.~~

Non-Public Textbooks Not administered by OSE

~~Non-Public Textbooks program are amounts appropriated by the Legislature for the same, all monies accruing from the sale of disused books from other than public schools, all monies derived from the purchase of books by both public and private schools' trustees, and by private individuals, all monies collected in damage suits under the terms of this chapter, and all other monies collected in any way whatsoever under the terms of this chapter. (MS Code Section 37-~~

43-41)

~~Non Public Textbooks program is administered by MDE's Office Elementary Education & Reading. Chauncey Spears, Director of MDE's Office of Textbook Adoption and Procurement submits allocation to SFS. The allocation is based on Average Daily Attendance (ADA) as reported by the eligible schools to our office from the previous school year.~~