

50-State Comparison: English Learner Policies

Funding per student

May 2020

The following information was gathered primarily from state statute and regulation. However, if statute or regulation stated that the funding was determined by another entity, the funding method set externally is provided as well. If the funding per student is only determined for a single academic year at a time, then the funding per student allocation for the most recent and available academic year is listed and includes the academic year for which it applied. View the full 50-State Comparison on English Learner Policies [here](#).

STATE	FUNDING PER STUDENT	SOURCE
Federal Law	States receive allotments through Title III funds. The minimum allotment per state is \$500,000.	20 U.S.C.A. § 6821
Alabama	Not found in statute or regulation.	
Alaska	Flat Weight: Funding factor 1.20	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.17.420
Arizona	Flat Weight: 0.115	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-94
Arkansas	Flat Weight: \$352	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2305
California	Flat weight: 0.20	Cal.Educ.Code § 42238.02
Colorado	Students are eligible for funding for up to 5 years. Funding is capped at \$400 or 20% of state average per pupil revenues. An additional \$200 or 10% of state average per pupil revenues is available for students to test below a certain threshold.	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-24-104
Connecticut	An amount equal to \$1,916,130 divided by the number of eligible children.	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-17g
Delaware	FTE allocation: 1 unit for each 250 full time students enrolled. Funding is provided under unit of academic excellence umbrella and includes programing for more than just EL students.	Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 1716

STATE	FUNDING PER STUDENT	SOURCE
District of Columbia	Flat Weight: 0.49	D.C. Code § 38-2905
Florida	Weight is determined by the annual General Appropriations act. Flat Weight (cost factor): 1.181 (2019-20 school year)	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1011.62 Additional Source
Georgia	Flat Weight: 2.5892	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-161
Hawaii	Based upon recommendations from the committee on weights, the board of education may adopt a weighted student formula for the allocation of moneys to public schools that takes into account the educational needs of each student. Multiple Weights: (1) Fully English Proficient (FEP) Weight: 0.096 (2) Limited English Proficient (LEP) Weight: 0.287 (3) Non-English Proficient (NEP) Weight: 0.573 (2020-21 school year)	Haw. Rev. Stat. § 302A-1303.6 Additional Source
Idaho	Moneys distributed to school districts based upon the population of limited-English proficiency students and distributed to school districts to support programs for students with non-English or limited-English proficiency shall be utilized in support of the district plan.	Idaho Code Ann. § 33-1617
Illinois	FTE Allocation: (1) One FTE intervention teacher (tutor) position for every 125 English learner students. (2) One FTE pupil support staff position for every 125 English learner students. (3) One FTE extended day teacher position for every 120 English learner students. (4) One FTE summer school teacher position for every 120 English learner students. (5) One FTE core teacher position for every 100 English learner students.	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/18-8.15
Indiana	Funding is capped at \$300 per student.	Ind. Code Ann. § 20-30-9-13
Iowa	Flat Weight: 0.22 Funding is capped at 5 years.	Iowa Code Ann. § 280.4
Kansas	Multiple Weights: The greater of: (1) The full-time equivalent enrollment in approved programs of bilingual education: 0.395. (2) The number of students enrolled in approved programs of bilingual education: 0.185	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-5150

STATE	FUNDING PER STUDENT	SOURCE
Kentucky	An add on calculation is applied for students with Limited English Proficiency. Flat Weight: 0.096	702 Ky. Admin. Regs. 3:270 Additional Source
Louisiana	The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, or its successor, shall annually develop and adopt a formula which shall be used to determine the cost of a minimum foundation program of education in all public elementary and secondary schools. Flat Weight: 0.22 (2020-21 school year)	La. Const. Ann. art. VIII, § 13 Additional Source
Maine	Multiple Weights: (1) For a school administrative unit with 15 or fewer English learners: 0.70 (2) For a school administrative unit with more than 15 and fewer than 251 English learners: 0.50 (3) For a school administrative unit with 251 or more English learners: 0.525	Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 20-A, § 15675
Maryland	Flat Weight: 0.50	Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 5-208
Massachusetts	Multiple Weights: (1) Grades Pre-Kindergarten to 5: \$2537.49 (2) Grades 6 to 8: \$2,721.46 (3) Grades 9 to 12: \$3,265.74	Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. ch. 70, § 3
Michigan	Multiple Weights: (1) Full time student with test scores between 1.0 and 1.9, or equivalent: \$900 (2) Full time student with test scores between 2.0 and 2.9, or equivalent: \$620 (3) Full time student with test scores between 3.0 and 3.9, or equivalent: \$100	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 388.1641
Minnesota	Flat Weight: \$704 Note: per student allocation is multiplied by the adjusted daily membership or 20, whichever is greatest.	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 124D.65
Mississippi	Not found in statute or regulation.	
Missouri	Funding is allocated through the state budget for districts that meet the Limited English Proficiency threshold. For the 2019-20 school year the threshold was 2.5%. Funding is determined by the legislature.	Mo. Ann. Stat. § 163.011 Additional Source
Montana	Not found in statute or regulation.	

STATE	FUNDING PER STUDENT	SOURCE
Nebraska	<p>Flat Weight: 0.25</p> <p>Note: The weight is multiplied by the number of EL students in a school district. If the number of students is greater than 1 but less than or equal to 12, the weight is multiplied by 12.</p>	<p>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-1007.08</p>
Nevada	<p>The funding per student is set by the legislature.</p> <p>Flat weight: \$6,288</p> <p>Note: this is the estimated weight for pupils classified as "profoundly gifted" for the 2020-21 school year. Profoundly gifted students includes but is not limited to EL students.</p>	<p>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 387.1214</p> <p>Additional Source</p>
New Hampshire	<p>Flat Weight: \$697.77</p> <p>Note: This was the amount allocated in 2015. Beginning in 2017, statute required that the department of education adjust the cost to be adequate.</p>	<p>N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 198:40-a</p> <p>N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 198:40-d</p>
New Jersey	<p>Flat Weight: 0.50</p> <p>Note: Statute states that the weight should be established in the Education Adequacy Report. This is the weight suggested through fiscal year 2020.</p>	<p>N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:7F-51</p> <p>Additional Source</p>
New Mexico	<p>Flat Weight: 0.35</p>	<p>N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8-22</p>
New York	<p>Flat Weight: 0.50</p>	<p>N.Y. Educ. Law § 3602</p> <p>Additional Source</p>
North Carolina	<p>FTE Allocation: A minimum of 1 teacher assistant position with additional funds allocated based on EL concentration.</p> <p>Note: LEAs/Charter schools must have at least 20 EL students or 2.5% of ADM must be EL to be eligible.</p>	<p>N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-238.70</p> <p>Additional Source</p>
North Dakota	<p>Multiple Weights:</p> <p>(1) Students who place in category 1 and who are enrolled in an EL program: 0.40</p> <p>(2) Students who place in category 2 and who are enrolled in an EL program: 0.28</p> <p>(3) Students who place in categories 3-6, are enrolled in an EL program, and have not been counted in this category for more than 3 years: 0.07</p>	<p>N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-27-03.1</p>

STATE	FUNDING PER STUDENT	SOURCE
Ohio	Multiple Weights: (1) For students enrolled in schools in the United States for 180 school days or less and not previously exempted from taking the spring administration of either of the state's English language arts assessments: \$1,515 (2) For students enrolled in schools in the United States for more than 180 school days or previously exempted from taking the spring administration of either of the state's English language arts assessments: \$1,136 (C) Other EL students: \$758	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3317.016
Oklahoma	Flat Weight: 0.25	Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 18-201.1
Oregon	Flat Weight: 0.50	Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 327.013
Pennsylvania	Flat Weight: 0.60	24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 25-2502.53
Rhode Island	Flat Weight: 0.10	R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-7.2-6
South Carolina	Not found in statute or regulation.	
South Dakota	Flat Weight: 0.25	S.D. Codified Laws § 13-13-10.1
Tennessee	FTE: (1) 1 teacher per 20 EL students (2) 1 translator per 200 EL students	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-3-307
Texas	Multiple Weights: (1) Students classified as EL: 0.10 (2) Students classified as EL who are in a bilingual education program using a dual language immersion/one-way or two-way program: 0.15 (3) Any student in a bilingual education program using a dual language immersion/two-way program model: 0.05	Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 48.105
Utah	The superintendent is responsible for dividing the grant among eligible LEAs.	Utah Admin. Code r. R277-708-3
Vermont	Flat Weight: 0.20	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 4010
Virginia	FTE Allocation: 17 instructional positions per 1000 EL students	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-253.13:2

STATE	FUNDING PER STUDENT	SOURCE
Washington	Instruction Time Allocation: (1) Grades K to 6: 4.778 hours (2) Grades 7-12: 6.778	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.150.260
West Virginia	Fund are appropriated by the Legislature to the Department of Education for distribution.	W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-9A-22
Wisconsin	It is the policy of this state to reimburse school districts, in substantial part, for the added costs of providing the programs to EL students.	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 115.95
Wyoming	Funding allocated by the Wyoming legislature is divided by ADM.	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-13-309