



K-12 and Special Education Funding

Gifted and Talented Funding

Filters:

October 2021

Funding mechanisms

- *Flat weight:* A single weight or dollar amount allocated by the state for students or districts that qualify based on certain factors or student needs. Allocations determined by flat weights do not vary based on specific program needs or student characteristics. For example, a state may provide a fixed dollar amount for each student whose family qualifies as low income to help fund additional programs to support the needs of those students.
- *Multiple student weights:* More than one weight or dollar amount is allocated by the state based on certain factors or student needs. States vary the amount allocated based on student need. For example, some states vary funding for students learning English as a second language, allocating more funds to students who are less fluent in English.
- *Census-based:* The state allocates funds to each district based on an assumed level of enrollment, regardless of the district's actual demographics. This type of funding can be used in foundation formula model funding and resource allocation model funding.
- *Resource-based allocation:* All districts receive a minimum base amount of resources. Resources could be staffing, services or programs, and are often based on a ratio of staffing to students.
- *Reimbursement system:* Districts submit receipts of eligible expenditures to the state, and the state reimburses districts for all or a portion of those expenditures.
- *High-cost services funding:* This type of funding is often coupled with other funding distribution methods, and funds can be distributed as grants or reimbursements. For example, a district may be responsible for the cost of special education services up to a certain threshold, but if costs exceed that threshold, a state may provide additional funding to the district.
- *Categorical grant:* The state distributes funds based on student characteristics or program needs to districts that demonstrate eligibility and/or a need for funding. For example, a state may provide a funding supplement for a small or isolated school district, based on that designation alone.
- *Hybrid:* The state distributes funds using two or more funding mechanisms. For example, a state may provide additional funding for students from low-income backgrounds using two funding streams, like a flat weight and a categorical grant.

50-State Comparisons on each data point are [here](#).

STATE	Gifted and Talented Funding? (Y/N)	Gifted and Talented Funding Mechanism	Gifted and Talented Program Name	Gifted and Talented Amount (Dollar amount or weight)	Source
Alabama	Yes	Categorical grant	Gifted Students Program	Total state appropriation of \$4,825,000 FY2022	Ala. Code § 16-1-51 - amount in FY 2022 budget

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Alaska	Yes	Census-based	State Aid to Public Schools	0.2 funding factor is applied to each district's ADM (combined funding for special education, gifted and talented, and ELL services).	AK ST § 14.17.410, § 14.17.420
Arizona	Yes	Hybrid - census-based and flat weight	Base Support level	Grade weights: 0.158 funding factor is applied to K-8 student count and 0.268 funding factor is applied to 9-12 student count (combined funding for special education, bilingual, career exploration, and gifted and talented services). An additional weight of 0.007 is applied to gifted and talented students.	A.R.S. § 15-901 A.R.S. § 15-943
Arkansas	Yes	Categorical grant	Public School Fund	\$739,025 (2019-20)	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-42-106
California	No				
Colorado	Yes	Categorical grant	Gifted Education Funding	\$12,994,942 (2021-22)	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-20-205 SB 21-268
Connecticut	No				
Delaware	Yes	Resource-based Allocation	Unit for Academic Excellence	One resource unit per 250 pupils	Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 1716
District of Columbia	No				
Florida	Yes	Categorical grant	Exceptional Student Education Guaranteed Allocation	\$1.09b (2021-22, combined funding for students with disabilities)	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1003.01 and § 1011.62 S.B. 2500
Georgia	Yes	Flat Weight	Quality Basic Education	Weight of 0.6794 Ratio of 1 to 12	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-161

STATE	Gifted and Talented Funding? (Y/N)	Gifted and Talented Funding Mechanism	Gifted and Talented Program Name	Gifted and Talented Amount (Dollar amount or weight)	Source
Hawaii	Yes	Flat weight	Weighted Student Formula	Weight of 0.265	Hawaii State Department of Education
Idaho	Yes	Hybrid - census-based and resource-based allocation	Exceptional Education Support	Combined funding for students with disabilities and gifted and talented students. For K-6 students, districts receive additional resource-based allocations based on 6% of enrollment. For grades 7-12, the calculation is based on 5.5% of enrollment.	Idaho Code Ann. § 33-1002 and § 33-2001 Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.01.400
Illinois	Yes	Flat weight	Evidence-Based Formula	The state's funding formula includes \$90 per pupil to provide services for gifted and talented students.	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/18-8.15
Indiana	Yes	Categorical grant	Grants for High Ability Students	\$13m for school year 2021-22. Grants amounts are based on a set minimum plus a per pupil amount.	
Iowa	Yes		Talented and Gifted Funding	The state's funding formula includes \$67 per pupil to provide services for gifted and talented students (2021-22).	Iowa Code Ann. § 257.46
Kansas	No				
Kentucky	Yes	Categorical grant	The Gifted and Talented Fund	Grant of \$6,208,400 (2021-2022) to districts	2021-2022 Budget of the Commonwealth
Louisiana	Yes	Flat weight	Minimum Foundation Program	Additional weight of 0.60	SCR 2 (2021 legislative session) La. Const. Ann. art. VIII, § 13

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Maine	Yes	Reimbursement	Approved Gifted and Talented Programs	\$13,487,220 (fiscal year 2018-2019)	Code Me. R. tit. 05-071 Ch. 104., § 104.03 Maine Department of Education Reports and Presentations
Maryland	Yes	Categorical grant	College and Career Ready Program	Per pupil amount of \$517 in fiscal year 2022	Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 5-217
Massachusetts	No				
Michigan	No				
Minnesota	Yes	Flat weight	Gifted and Talented Revenue	Adjusted pupil units for that school year times an additional \$13.	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 126C.10
Mississippi	Yes	Resource-based allocation	Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP) Add-On Program	The adequate education program salary schedule based on the type of certificate and number of years' teaching experience held by each approved gifted education teacher plus the employer's rate for Social Security and State Retirement	Miss. Code. Ann. § 37-151-7 Miss. Code. Ann. § 37-151-81
Missouri	No				
Montana	Yes	Categorical grant	Gifted and Talented State Grant Program	\$350,000 (2021-2022) \$350,000 (2022-2023)	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-7-903 HB2 (Budget bill)
Nebraska	Yes	Categorical grant	Funding for High Ability Learners	Districts apply to the Nebraska department of education for base funds and matching funds, which are required to be spent on accelerated or differentiated curriculum programs. Each eligible district receives one-tenth of one percent of the appropriation as base funds plus a pro rata share of the remainder of the appropriation based on the amount of identified students (up to 10 percent of the prior year's fall membership).	92 Neb. Admin. Code Ch. 3,007

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Nevada	Yes	Flat weight	Pupil Centered Funding Plan	Additional weight of 0.12 (2021-2022 and 2022-2023)	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 387.1211 SB458 (Budget bill)
New Hampshire	No				
New Jersey	No				
New Mexico	Yes	Multiple student weights	State Equalization Guarantee - Special Education Program Units	Gifted and talented students are included within special education. Additional weight of 0.7 for class A and B programs, an additional 1.0 for class C programs, and additional 2.0 for class D programs.	N.M. Admin. Code 6.29.1 N.M. Admin. Code 6.31.2 N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-8-21
New York	No				
North Carolina	Yes	Categorical grant	Funds for Academically Gifted Children	For FY 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, \$1,364.78 per eligible student capped at a maximum of four percent of the LEA's 2021-2022 average daily membership.	S.B. 105, Sec. 7.2 (2021 Legislative Session)
North Dakota	No				

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Ohio	Yes	Hybrid - flat weight and resource-based allocation	Operating standards for identifying and serving students who are gifted	The state provides additional funding for gifted students to cover costs associated with FTE gifted coordinators and gifted intervention specialists. It does so by providing an additional dollar amount per identified student for gifted identification (\$24), gifted referral (\$2.50) and gifted staff professional development (\$7 in FY 2022 and \$14 in FY 2023). Additionally the state provides funding sufficient the following staff amounts: - One gifted coordinator position for every 3,300 students in a districts, with a minimum of .5 and a maximum of 8 FTE allocated for a district - One K-8 grade gifted intervention specialist for every 140 students, with a minimum of .3 FTE allocated for a district - One 9-12 grade gifted intervention specialist for every 140 students, with a minimum of .3 FTE allocated for a district	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3317.022 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3317.051 Ohio Admin. Code 3301-51-15
Oklahoma	Yes	Flat weight	Weighted membership for calculation of Foundation Aid	Additional weight of .34	Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 18-201
Oregon	Yes	Categorical grant	Talented and Gifted Children	Districts apply for grant funds, which the Superintendent of Public Instruction approves. Districts are required to expend an amount equal to or greater than the amount of state funds if approved.	Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 343.399
Pennsylvania	Yes	Reimbursement system	State reimbursement of exceptional children	According to statute, districts receive reimbursements for costs incurred from providing education services to gifted and talented students.	24 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 13-1373
Rhode Island	No				

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South Carolina	Yes	Flat weight	Student Weighting: High Achieving	Additional weight of .15	Note: While pupil weightings are outline in statute (S.C. Code Ann. § 59-20-40), the most recent weightings used to determine funding levels are set by the state department of education's annual report. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Funding Manual
South Dakota	No				
Tennessee	Yes	Resource-based allocation	Basic Education Program calculation: Special Education Components	Note: Tennessee designates intellectually gifted students as a category of special education. Districts identify students and provide special education services according to an Individualized Education Program developed for the students. As such, intellectually gifted students are included in the enrollment count for the special education funding component in the Basic Education Program. The state provides funding to sufficiently cover the following teacher to student ratios: Teachers: 10 options based on disability and severity Supervisors: 750:1 Assessment Personnel: 600:1 Assistants: 60:1 Materials: \$36.50 Equipment: \$17.25 Travel: \$17.25	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-3-307 Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0520-01-09-09 Basic Education Program Blue Book FY 2021 Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-10-102 Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-10-113
Texas	No				
Utah	Yes	Categorical grant	Enhancement for Accelerated Students Program	Districts apply for funds	Utah Code Ann. § 53F-2-408

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Vermont	No				
Virginia	Yes	Resource-based allocation	Education of Gifted Payments	In addition to positions supported by basic aid, the state provides extra funding sufficient to support extra FTE instructional positions. The state funds one extra FTE instructional position per 1,000 students identified as gifted.	2021 VA H.B. 1800 Ch. 552
Washington	Yes	Hybrid. resource-based allocation and census-based.	Funding for Highly Capable Students	Resource-based allocation: Allocations are based on five percent of each district's FTE basic education enrollment. Funding must sufficiently provide for 2.1590 per week in extra instruction for fifteen highly capable students per teacher. Census-based: The legislature intends to allocate funds based on 5 percent of each school district's population.	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.185.020 Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.150.260
West Virginia	No				
Wisconsin	Yes	Categorical grant	Grants to support gifted and talented pupils	Subject to appropriations, districts apply for funds.	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.35
Wyoming	Yes	Flat weight	Resource Block Grant Model, Gifted Component	An additional \$40.29 multiplied by the number of gifted students counted by the average daily membership of the district.	WY H.B. 236 (2017) Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-13-101(a) (xvii)
Total answers	Yes: No:	35 16	Categorical : Flat Weight: Hybrid: Resourced-based: Reimbursement: Census-based: Multiple:	13 9 4 4 2 1 1	