

Special Session E12 appropriations bill

After a week plus of special session negotiations, the House and Senate reached an agreement on the E12 appropriations bill. The original target agreed to at the end of the regular session of \$525 million was increased to \$554 million but was lowered for the 24-25 biennium from \$675 million to \$669 million.

Below is a summary of the key provisions of the bill as well as links to budget spreadsheets, district runs, and bill language.

[Bill language](#)

[Appropriations – change items](#)

[Property tax tracking](#)

[House research summary](#)

[District runs](#)

FINANCE PROVISIONS

Formula increase: Increases the general per-pupil formula allowance by \$161 per pupil unit (2.45 percent) for FY22 and by \$296 per pupil unit (2.0 percent) in FY23.

Special education cross-subsidy: Appropriates \$10.425 million FY22 only in cross-subsidy reduction aid. Aid for equal the ratio of the school district's initial special education cross-subsidy in FY21 to the total initial special education cross-subsidy in FY21 for all districts.

English learner aid: Provides for four years of additional EL supplemental aid. Sets the statewide aid amount at \$2 million per year and pays the amount to school districts and charter schools proportionate to their other English learner revenue.

Voluntary prekindergarten: Continues for two years only the 4,000 seats for voluntary prekindergarten/school readiness plus that would otherwise expire. Makes no policy changes to the administration of VPK or SR+.

Local optional revenue: Increases local optional aid (and correspondingly lowers the local optional levy) for FY23 only by setting the second-tier equalizing factor at \$548,842 per pupil unit for FY23. Lowers the equalizing factor back to \$510,000 for FY24 and later.

Growing the teacher of color workforce:

- Grow Your Own grants: Appropriates \$10 million over the biennium for grants to school districts.
- Mentor and retention incentive grants: Appropriates \$4.5 million of the biennium
- Black Men Teach: Appropriates \$750,000 in FY22-23 only.
- American Indian teacher prep grants. Appropriates \$280,000 over the biennium.

Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling grant: Appropriates \$3 million for LETRS grants in FY22 only.

Non-exclusionary discipline training grants: Appropriates \$1.75 million in FY22 only grants to school districts and charter schools to provide training for school staff on non-exclusionary disciplinary practices.

Digital well-being grant: Appropriates \$1 million to LiveMore ScreenLess for grants to support the creation of a library of resources that promote digital well-being,

POLICY PROVISIONS

Absence from school for religious observance: Requires a school board to provide annual notice to parents of the school district’s policy on absence from school for religious observance.

Staff development revenue: Requires districts to use staff development for teacher mentorship under MN statute 122A.70, subdivision 1. Current law requires revenue to be used for this purpose only if extra funds remain after being used for other purposes.

Annual expenditure report: Requires a district to report expenditures for basic skills revenue by functional area.

Revised academic standards implementation suspension: Suspends until June 1, 2023, implementation of revised academic standards not already implemented as of January 1, 2021. Allows the commissioner to continue current rulemaking activities and develop future statewide assessments.

Special education recovery services and supports: Requires a school district or charter school to invite the parents of a student with a disability to a meeting of each individualized education program team as soon as practicable, to determine whether special education services and supports are necessary to address the lack of progress on IEP goals or in the general education curriculum due to distributions from COVID-19. States that the services and supports may include extended school year services, additional IEP services, compensatory services, or other appropriate services. Requires services and supports be included in the IEP of the student. Requires the district or charter school to report to the commissioner the services and supports provided to students with disabilities under this section, including the cost. Allows a school district or charter school to use federal funds to comply with this section.

Report on behavioral health services reimbursement: Directs the commissioners of education and human services to consult with stakeholders to find strategies to streamline access and reimbursement for behavioral health services for children with an individualized education program or an individualized family service plan who are enrolled in Medical Assistance.

Mental health education: Requires a district or charter school providing instruction on preventing suicide or self-harm to use the resources provided by the commissioner or other evidence-based instruction.

Respectful school meal policies: Requires districts to provide meals to students in a respectful manner and prohibits them from imposing certain restrictions or limiting a student’s participation in certain activities due to an unpaid student meal debt.

Seizure training and action plan: Requires a school district or charter school where a student with a seizure disorder and prescribed seizure medication is enrolled to have a seizure action plan. The action plan must identify a school nurse or designated individual who can administer seizure medication and require training on seizures.

Notification of environmental hazards: Requires a school district, charter school, or nonpublic school to notify school staff, students, and parents when it receives notice of environmental hazards from the Department of Health or Pollution Control Agency.

Limit on screen time for children in preschool and kindergarten: Prohibits a child in a publicly funded preschool or kindergarten program from using an individual-use screen without engagement from a teacher or other students. Excludes a child with an individualized family service plan, an individualized education program, or a 504 plan from the application of this section. This section is effective July 1, 2022.