



May 1, 2017

Duluth Public Schools – 3 sites

RE: Application for State Aid for Alternative Delivery of Specialized Services (ADSIS)
State Fiscal Year 2018 and State Fiscal Year 2019 (subject to approved budget and reporting)

Dear Applicant:

At this time the Commissioner of Education is conditionally approving your district's application as authorized by Minnesota Statute, section 125A.50, Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services (ADSIS) for State Fiscal Years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. **This approval is conditional on the final review of your ADSIS budget.**

This state aid is for the purpose of providing instruction and services to K-12 pupils that need additional academic and behavioral supports to succeed in the general education environment and who may eventually qualify for special education if the prevention services were not available.

The total budget request in your application was \$269,500. ADSIS aid is generated in the year following the year in which the expenditure was incurred. Given the complexity of the special education aid formula, it is difficult to estimate the aid attributable to the ADSIS program on a district-by-district basis. In the first year the increased total Special Education and ADSIS program costs will cause increased tuition billing rates resulting in additional aid. For traditional school districts this will generally result in a 5 – 10% reimbursement of their total first year (ADSIS costs for charter schools the amount is closer to 40 – 45%). In later years the costs are funded around 51 – 62% (districts are subject to their Growth Limit/aid cap).

As part of the accountability requirements, recipients must annually submit the following; a) a mid-year progress report, b) an approvable budget spreadsheet for SFY 2019 c) end-of-year evaluation report and d) service hour spreadsheet. These reports are important in documenting data and meeting required application components which help to determine the effectiveness of ADSIS services and eligibility for funding. You will be provided additional information later with regard to these.

The Minnesota Department of Education anticipates working with an outside evaluator and your cooperation in working with the evaluator is expected and appreciated. Your site may also receive a field visit from the ADSIS team.

Rebecca Nies is your contact for any program related questions regarding your application and program. You may contact her at Rebecca.Nies@state.mn.us or [651-582-8648](tel:651-582-8648) Your contact for any budget and fiscal related questions is Jill Bemis at spedfunding@state.mn.us or call 651-582-8408.

Information regarding the review is available after July 4, 2017. We wish you success in the delivery of your ADSIS services and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Pamela Jones

cc: Rebecca Nies, Program Specialist
Review File
Applicant ADSIS Program Contact