

SCOE BIZ

Business Services

Bulletin No. 25-13



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February 27, 2025

To: District and Charter Business Services
From: Sarah Lampenfeld, Director of External Fiscal Services
Subject: February 2025 Edition

State of the State

Preliminary General Fund agency cash receipts were \$361 million, or 1.5%, below the forecast in January, per California's Department of Finance's February Finance Bulletin. While cash receipts were down for the month, the totals were \$2.2 billion, or 2% above the fiscal year-to-date forecast. The year-to-date overage results from higher receipts from personal income tax and other revenues partially offset by lower-than-expected corporation tax and sales tax receipts. It's important to note that the Governor's budget forecast does not include the delayed tax deadlines for Los Angeles County taxpayers, negatively impacting January receipts.

- ✚ **Personal income tax (PIT) receipts** for January were \$174 million below the forecast for January. The fiscal year-to-date overage was due to withholding receipts coming in \$2.3 billion higher in December and January.
- ✚ **Corporation tax receipts** for January were \$535 million, or 18.4%, below the forecast and were \$186 million, or 1%, below the fiscal year-to-date forecast. The year-to-date shortfall is due primarily to Pass-Through Entity Elective Tax payments being \$252 million lower than projected, offset by other payments exceeding the forecast by \$133 million.
- ✚ **Sales and use tax receipts** for January were \$48 million, or 2.5%, below the forecast.
- ✚ **Other revenues** were \$439 million, or 296.6%, above the forecast in January and \$483 million, or 75.5%, above the fiscal year-to-date forecast due to higher federal cost recovery collections.

Economic Update: U.S. GDP grew at a 2.3% seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) in the fourth quarter of 2024. U.S. headline increased a 0.1% point to 3% year-over-year in January 2025. Core inflation (excludes food and energy) rose 0.1% point to 3.3% year-over-year.

2024-25 First Principal (P-1) Apportionment and EPA Third Quarter Apportionment

The 2024–25 First Principal (P-1) Apportionment has been certified, which includes updated calculations for the 2023–24 Annual Recertification (Annual) and 2022–23 Second Annual Recertification (Annual R2).

The following information is available on the California Department of Education's (CDE) website at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/pa/pa2425.asp> to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) in understanding the components of the 2024–25 P-1 Apportionment:

- Apportionment letter and accompanying attachment that describes the funding calculations and available resources.
- LEA Funding Detail:
 - Funding Exhibits: Detailed entitlement calculations by LEA for each Principal Apportionment program.

- Beginning with 2024–25 P-1, the Funding Exhibits were updated to improve user experience. Users will notice the layout changed slightly but will continue to provide the same information as in prior years.
- Excel files:
 - Principal Apportionment Summary, Adjustments and Prior Year Re-computations, Payment Schedules, etc.
- The LCFF Fingertip Facts has been updated with 2024–25 P-1 data, as well as 2023–24 Annual data.
- Statewide LCFF Summary Data: Statewide summary data of the main components of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), including base, supplemental, and concentration grants.
- Special Education funding details, including the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Assembly Bill 602 Average Daily Attendance are available on the Special Education web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/se/index.asp>.

2024–25 EPA Third Quarter Apportionment

The 2024–25 Third Quarter Apportionment for the Education Protection Account (EPA) has been certified. The EPA entitlement schedule and apportionment letter are now available on the California Department of Education website at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/pa/>. County treasurers are estimated to receive warrants for this apportionment on March 24, 2025, and county offices of education should advise school districts and charter schools immediately of this apportionment.

Principal Apportionment Data Collection (PADC) Open for Prior Year Corrections

Corrections for prior years were due to SCOE by February 19, 2025. These corrections will be reflected in the P-2 apportionment certification.

Prior year corrections include:

- Audit Adjustments to California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Data
- Prior Year Corrections other than Audit Adjustments to CALPADS data

Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Capacity Grant

In preparation for the CYBHI Capacity Grant, the advisor team created a locally restricted resource code, 9228. LEAs will need to set up expense accounts using the CSAM.

School Closure and Material Decrease Reminders


Earlier this month, many LEAs closed their schools due to heavy rains. Please review school calendars to ensure the LEA’s instructional time/minimum day requirements are met for the fiscal year. Also, several LEAs may have had a material decrease in attendance on February 3rd due to the Day Without Immigrants protest. Current law does not allow for a J-13A demonstration waiver; however, the CDE has established a workgroup to review the possibility of claiming such events. If updated guidance is provided, LEAs will be notified.

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Closure Requirements

- 🚧 Please remember that effective fiscal year 2023-24, AB 141 added language to address emergency closure situations for the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program since LEAs will be audited for compliance with the hour and day requirement. LEAs with a

qualifying emergency, tying back to closure reasons in the J-13A statute, **will need to adopt a board resolution stating the facts substantiating the need for the emergency closure and provide supporting documentation for audit.**

- There will not be a CDE approval process or similar J-13A requirement for ELOP emergency closures. The board resolution is needed for any closures on schooldays that are part of the instructional time calendar intended to meet the annual day requirements, which includes 180 days for districts and 175 for charter schools (EC Section 46120(b)(1)(A)); and for closures that occur during the 30 nonschool day offering (EC Section 46120(b)(1)(B)).

 [Here](#) is a sample resolution.

GASB 31: Fair Market Value Update

The Quarterly Report and Certification of the County Treasurer for the Quarter ending December 31, 2024, is available [here](#). This report identifies the composition of the Sonoma County Treasury Investment Pool by the type of investment, the effective yield for the stated period, current market value, weighted average days to maturity, and a detailed listing of the investments held.

Latest on the Market Value/Book Value:

Section I: Sonoma County Pooled Investment Fund Summary Statistics		
Investment Pool	As of Dec 31, 2024	As of Sep 30, 2024
Book Value	\$3,538,036,412	\$3,277,292,206
Market Value	\$3,518,969,281	\$3,268,233,342
Market Value/Book Value	99.46%	99.72%
Weighted Avg Maturity	716 Days	712 Days
Quarterly Return (gross)	3.979%	3.854%
Apportionment Rate (net)	3.934%	3.816%
Interest Apportioned	\$33,261,575	\$32,966,020
Average Daily Book Value	\$3,381,458,759	\$3,455,216,616
Other Funds		
Tobacco Endowment	\$10,987,790	\$11,045,675
Water Agency - Book	\$33,795,815	\$32,896,913
Water Agency - Market	\$33,795,815	\$32,885,957
Water Agency - Mkt/Book	100.00%	99.97%
Water Agency - WAM	2501 Days	2445 Days
Total All Funds - Book	\$3,582,820,018	\$3,321,234,794






Notes from the Oversight Committee: Property Taxes and other taxes, such as bond sales, have contributed to the increase (~\$260M as measured by the book value). The market-to-book value ratio declined during the quarter as investment values decreased with rising interest rates. The weighted maturity of investments was roughly unchanged (712 to 716 days).

GASB 101: Compensated Absences

Effective fiscal year 2024-25, GASB 101 modifies the criteria for recognizing liabilities related to compensated absences. As a result, any associated tax liabilities or related expenditures must be included in the liability for compensated absences. However, this update does not change the overall recognition process, as these amounts will still be incorporated into the GASB 34 conversion entries required for Government-wide financial statements. To comply with this new requirement, LEAs can utilize the **Frontline Report Leave 04b: Leave Liabilities by Account**, which has been reviewed and approved by an LEA’s auditor.

Fiscal Reports by School Services of California

School Services does an excellent job of providing explanations to current topics. If you are a School Services of California member, you can also see these reports by logging in to view their web page or subscribe to their email services. Attached for your convenience are:

-  Attendance Recovery Program
-  2025 Adjustments to SFP Grants
-  LAO Proposition 98 Analysis: A Balancing Act
-  Reminder: Submit Menstrual Products Mandate Claims
-  Reminder: Submit Claims for FAFSA and CADAA Mandate

REMINDERS:

Please submit SCOE Biz 25-11: Audit Selection as soon as possible and **no later than April 1, 2025**. Please submit SCOE Biz 25-08: Audit Certification and Corrective Actions to your Fiscal Advisor by **March 15th**.

ESSA PPE Reporting and School-Level Finance Survey (SLFS)

CDE's web-based application for LEAs to submit Every Student Succeeds Act Per-Pupil Expenditures (ESSA PPE) is now available. **LEAs must submit data to the CDE before March 17, 2025.**

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) within the U.S. Department of Education (ED), along with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), has implemented a new requirement, the School-Level Finance Survey (SLFS). Starting with fiscal year (FY) 2023–24 data collection, NCES Function 1000 (Instruction) data field will be collected.

LEAs can submit their SLFS data through the California Department of Education (CDE) [Every Student Succeeds Act Per Pupil Expenditure \(ESSA PPE\) data collection system](#) and select the SLFS survey. Note: The ESSA PPE and SLFS surveys are separate data collection efforts. To prevent LEAs from accessing two separate data collection systems, the CDE expanded its current ESSA PPE data collection system to capture SLFS data.

Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program (CSESAP)

The Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program (CSESAP) provides up to a dollar-for-dollar match on amounts withheld from a participating local educational agency's (LEA's) classified school employees' monthly paychecks during the 2025-26 school year. The classified employees' pay withheld and the state match funds will be paid by LEAs to the LEA's eligible employees in the summer months following the 2025-26 school year.

School districts and county offices of education that elect to participate must notify their classified school employees by January 1, 2025, and **the California Department of Education (CDE) by April 1, 2025**. More information can be found on the CDE webpage at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/ca/csesap.asp>. A summary of key dates and requirements that LEAs need to be aware of in implementing the program if the LEA decides to participate in FY26 can be found [here](#).

Transportation Service Plan Update by April 1st

Effective 2022-23, school districts receive reimbursement for 60% of their prior-year transportation expenses. This funding requires school districts to adopt a Transportation Service Plan and update the plan each year by April 1st.

Charter School Renewals

To expedite the processing of charter renewals, the CDE released the following message to provide a summary of how to notify the California Department of Education (CDE) of the renewal of a charter school.

Under California *Education Code (EC)* Section 47604.32(a)(5)(A), a chartering authority (e.g., school district or county office) is required to provide timely notification (i.e., within 10 days) after approving the renewal of a charter school to the CDE. The renewal of a charter school must be documented by an official action (e.g., board minutes, board resolution, signed letter from the superintendent, etc.) of the chartering authority. The chartering authority (i.e., not the charter school) is to submit the notice of the renewal approval to the CDE via email at charters@cde.ca.gov prior to the expiration of the charter term. In order for the CDE to process the renewed charter term, the following documents are required to be provided by the chartering authority:

1. Charter School Renewal Cover Sheet signed by the Superintendent of the chartering authority.
2. Written notice (e.g., board minutes of the public hearing approving the renewal of the charter) by the governing board of the chartering authority. The minutes need to include a statement that the charter school has been renewed for a X-year term effective from July 1, XXXX, through June 30, XXXX.
3. Updated and complete petition (including new legislation enacted after the charter school was originally granted or last renewed) as approved by the chartering authority.
4. If the status of the charter school is low performing, a copy of the written plan adopted by the governing body of the charter school as stated under *EC* Section 47607.2(a)(4)(A), and the charter board minutes demonstrating the date the written plan was adopted by the charter school governing board.

Additional information regarding the charter school renewal process is provided at [CDE Charter School Renewals](#). Please contact charters@cde.ca.gov with questions.

If you are unclear about your charter schools' renewal date, please see the CDE's webpage [here](#).

Dates to Remember:

02/28/2025	CALPADS – Fall 2 Certification Deadline (official submission window deadline)
03/13/2025	ERP- 2025/26 Position Control Workshop Click here to register
03/15/2025	Audit Corrective Actions due to SCOE
03/17/2025	ESSA PPE and SLFS Reporting Due
03/18/2025	2 nd Interim Reports due to SCOE (3/15/2025 for Charter Schools)
03/21/2025	CALPADS – Fall 2 Certification Deadline (amendment window deadline)
03/26/2025	LCAP Training Session 3 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
03/26/2025	CALPADS User Group Meeting 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
03/27/2025	EPR – 2025/26 Budget Development Workshop Click here to register
03/27/2025	March DBUG * time change* one hour after the Budget Development Workshop

2024-25 District Business User Group (DBUG) meeting dates:

All meetings are on the 4th Thursday at 9:00 a.m. (New time this year)

Dates: 3/27/2025 (time change -AFTER Budget Development workshop), 4/24/2025, 5/22/2025, and 6/26/2025

Workshops

Next Fiscal Year Workshop: May 14, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Year-End Close Workshop: June 4, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

NOTE:

- Want to add something to a DBUG Agenda? Want a topic added to SCOE Biz? Contact DBUG Chair Christina Menicucci
- Documents presented at DBUG can be found posted at group <http://www.scoe.org/pub/htdocs/fiscal-dbug.html>
- Workshop manuals and Fiscal Services/IT forms may be found at <http://www.scoe.org/escape> under the heading of Resources on the left side of the page.



FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

Attendance Recovery Program

 **BY BRIANNA GARCÍA**

 **BY WENDI MCCASKILL**

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posted February 5, 2025

One key outcome of the 2024-25 Enacted Budget was the establishment of the Attendance Recovery Program, which, beginning July 1, 2025, will allow local educational agencies (LEAs) to generate make-up attendance for both funding generation and chronic absentee mitigation. Prior to the establishment of the Attendance Recovery Program, the only option for make-up attendance has been weekend classes, commonly referred to as Saturday School, with the majority of weekend classes offered by school districts or county offices of education on Saturdays.

Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, both Saturday School and the Attendance Recovery Program will be available options to generate make up attendance, each with its respective conditions of apportionment and programmatic requirements. While the Attendance Recovery Program is more expansive regarding the number of days on which attendance can be recovered, it does have additional conditions of apportionment beyond those that apply to Saturday School. For LEAs planning to offer the Attendance Recovery Program, some planning can go a long way to ensure that the conditions of apportionment are met, and that attendance can be successfully recovered.

Some of the key elements of each program are listed below:

Key Element	Saturday School	Attendance Recovery Program
Eligible LEAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School districts • County offices of education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School districts • County offices of education • Charter schools¹

Allowable days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturdays • Sundays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturdays • Sundays • Before school • After school • Intersessions
Eligible grade levels	TK/K-12	TK/K-12
Maximums	Cannot result in more than one unit of average daily attendance (ADA) generated per student per school year	Lesser of 10 days or the number of absences accrued per school year
Required supervision	Certificated employee of the LEA	Certificated teacher employed by the LEA
Pupil-to-teacher ratios	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TK/K—10:1 • Grades 1-12—20:1
Included in ADA calculations	Yes	Yes
Included in chronic absentee reporting	No	Yes
Attendance accumulation increment	Days	Hours that are converted to days
Minimum day requirement	Yes	Yes
Audit Guide inclusion	Not explicitly	Yes
Compulsory student participation	The governing board can require truants to attend	No

Expanded Learning Opportunities Program funds can be used to support program	No	Yes
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¹Nonclassroom-based charter school students and charter schools that serve pupils under Education Code Section 47612.1 are excluded from generating make-up attendance

We will be discussing Saturday School and the Attendance Recovery Program in more detail during our Instructional Time and Attendance Planning webinar on February 18, 2025. If you are interested in learning more, click [here](#) to register.



FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

2025 Adjustments to SFP Grants

 BY BRIANNA GARCÍA

 BY WENDI MCCASKILL

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posted February 12, 2025

Each year, the State Allocation Board (SAB) adjusts the School Facility Program (SFP) per-pupil grants to reflect construction cost changes pursuant to SFP regulations and Education Code Sections 17072.10(b) and 17074.10(b) for new construction and modernization projects, respectively.

The RS Means Construction Cost Index (CCI), the statewide cost index adopted by the SAB for this purpose, experienced an increase of 0.49%. A board member asked about the adequacy of a 0.49% increase given inflation and the fiscal impacts being experienced by local educational agencies. Executive Officer Rebecca Kirk reviewed the process undertaken last year when the RS Means CCI resulted in a negative year-over-year adjustment. In May 2024, the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) staff presented the results of its analysis and discussions with interest holders as it pertains to the appropriateness of continuing to utilize the RS Means CCI. Staff identified five alternate indices/measures of construction costs that would meet the statutory criteria of being a Class B CCI and used this to compare against the RS Means CCI. The analysis conducted looked at the alternate measures and developed a comparison table of features and methodology, as well as calculating the impacts to the SFP grants if the alternate measures had been used instead of the RS Means CCI since the time of its adoption by the SAB. The OPSC staff found that the RS Means CCI was the median of the group and most reflective of California costs as it is based on exclusively California cities, while other indices use national data with a smaller subset of California cities. Based on this analysis, the OPSC staff's recommendation was to continue using RS Means CCI.

Additionally, Executive Officer Kirk noted that although there was a negative adjustment last year and only a small increase this year, in the years immediately preceding these two years, there were significant increases in a two- or three-year span. Therefore, this year and last year may be a leveling out after large spikes.

The SAB approved the motion. Therefore, the adopted rates are as follows effective January 1, 2025:

	New Construction		Modernization	
	2024 Per-Pupil Grant	2025 Per-Pupil Grant	2024 Per-Pupil Grant	2025 Per-Pupil Grant
Elementary	\$15,770	\$15,847	\$6,005	\$6,034
Middle	\$16,679	\$16,761	\$6,350	\$6,381
High	\$21,223	\$21,327	\$8,315	\$8,356
Special Day Class— Severe	\$44,314	\$44,531	\$19,138	\$19,232
Special Day Class— Non-Severe	\$29,637	\$29,782	\$12,804	\$12,867

For a full list of all grant amount adjustments, the agenda can be found [here](#) and the item begins on page 143 of the PDF.



FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

LAO Proposition 98 Analysis: A Balancing Act

 BY MEGAN BAIER

 BY PATTI F. HERRERA, EDD

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posted February 14, 2025

On Thursday, February 13, 2025, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released its analysis of Governor Gavin Newsom's Proposition 98 spending proposal for the 2025-26 State Budget. The analysis identifies \$7.8 billion in newly available Proposition 98 resources across the 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years and delineates how the Governor proposes to use most of the funding among different ongoing and one-time investments.

Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee

Using what the LAO views as reasonable revenue assumptions, the minimum guarantee for 2024-25 and 2025-26 increases by \$3.9 billion and \$3.6 billion from the 2024-25 Enacted Budget passed last June. However, the analysis notes, as did Governor Newsom, that conditions affecting revenue assumptions could change given how much the state's General Fund relies on Wall Street's performance, as well as the potential for revenue impacts as a result of the Los Angeles County wildfires last month. The LAO explains that Proposition 98 is particularly sensitive to revenue swings in 2024-25 because, in addition to being under Test 1 that sequesters 40 cents of every state General Fund dollar for TK-12 agencies and community colleges, revised maintenance factor payment calculations would change estimates of the minimum guarantee by 55 cents for every state General Fund dollar. According to the LAO, this dynamic has only occurred two other times since the inception of Proposition 98, in 2013-14 and 2014-15. The picture for 2025-26 is different because while the minimum guarantee is under Test 1, there is no obligation for the state to make a maintenance factor payment; thus, Proposition 98 is moderately susceptible to changes in revenue.

This provides important context for reasons why Governor Newsom is proposing to delay the appropriation of \$1.6 billion of the total \$3.9 billion increase in the 2024-25 minimum guarantee until May 2026 when the state will have greater certainty about revenues for the current fiscal year. The LAO refers to the Governor's proposal as a "delayed settle-up payment," which is owed to education when the final certification of the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee determines that the state owes more than it provided in the Enacted Budget. Each year beginning in May, the state certifies the minimum guarantee for the prior fiscal year. In the past, when this process yields a higher obligation to public education than provided, the state has made

settle-up payments as soon as it recognizes one is due. While the LAO considers the Governor's proposal reasonable, it notes that a proposal to delay an estimated settle-up payment *preemptively* is a departure from historical practice.

The Governor's proposal is drawing scrutiny from key parties. The LAO offers state lawmakers three alternatives that policymakers have used in the past to manage economic uncertainty:

- Make a \$1.6 billion discretionary deposit into the Proposition 98 reserve and reduce or rescind the deposit if the certified minimum guarantee is lower than current estimates
- Appropriate \$1.6 billion as part of the Enacted Budget but delay disbursements to TK-12 and community college agencies until next June
- Suspend Proposition 98 and set education funding at \$117.6 billion, consistent with the Governor's proposed level

Each alternative has budgetary implications at both the state and local level, and the LAO analysis discusses these implications.

Governor's Proposed Education Spending

The LAO applauds the Governor's education spending approach for its reasonable mix of ongoing and one-time investments, helping to build a "cushion that would protect ongoing programs."

The constitution requires the state to make a \$1.2 billion and \$376 million deposit into the Proposition 98 reserve account in 2024-25 and 2025-26, respectively, bringing the total account balance at the end of 2025-26 to \$1.5 billion, which provides some resilience in the Governor's education budget.

Other key spending proposals include the following:

Ongoing		One-Time	
LCFF COLA (2.43%)	\$ 1,858	TK-12 Discretionary block grant	\$ 1,776
TK expansion	1,065	Literacy and math coaches	500
TK classroom ratios	746	Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant	379
Expanded Learning Opportunities Program	435	LCFF deferral buydown	247
Categorical programs COLA (2.43%)	206	Teacher recruitment incentive grant	150
Universal meals	84	School kitchen infrastructure	150
Statewide System of Support	5	Teacher certification program	100
K-12 High Speed Network	4	Literacy screening	40
California College Guidance Initiative	3	TK language screener	10
Homeless education	2	Statewide System of Support	5
FCMAT	1	IEP Template	2
		Standards adoption	1
TOTALS	\$ 4,409		\$ 3,359

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) represents the largest investment in the Proposition 98 package, which covers the cost of a 2.43% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). The LAO notes the COLA is likely to come down from the Governor's January budget estimate to 2.2%. Across all investments, the LAO offers comments and recommendations on the following: \$1.8 billion one-time discretionary block grant, the transitional kindergarten (TK) classroom ratio amount, and the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant. The LAO recommends clarifying the policy on the \$1.8 billion Student Support and Professional Development Block Grant to ensure that it is fully flexible to help local educational agencies (LEAs) address local costs and their highest priorities. Regarding the \$746 million ongoing investment to support lower classroom ratios in TK, the LAO believes that the Administration is proposing more funding than is necessary for local implementation. The analysis foreshadows a deeper analysis and alternative recommendations. Finally, the LAO recommends that lawmakers extend the deadline for LEAs to spend the \$379 million and future installments of the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant.



FISCAL REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

Reminder: Submit Menstrual Products Mandate Claims



BY KYLE HYLAND



BY BRIANNA GARCÍA

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posted February 18, 2025

The deadline for the submittal of initial claims for the expansion of the menstrual products mandate is almost here.

As detailed in the article “[Submit Claims for the Menstrual Products Mandate](#)” in the December 2024 Fiscal Report, the Commission on State Mandates (CSM) uses claims submitted within the first 120 days after the State Controller’s Office (SCO) releases the claiming instructions to arrive at a statewide cost estimate. If the Legislature and the Department of Finance determine the mandate will be included in the Mandate Block Grant, these claims form the basis for the State Budget appropriation to fund the costs of the mandated program.

A number of districts have already submitted claims, but the more diverse the claims submitted (large, medium, and small districts), the more reliable the data will be for establishing a statewide cost estimate. For those districts still working on their claims, the deadline is **February 27, 2025**.

Claiming instructions and forms can be found [here](#). Additional information on state mandates can be found on the SCO’s website by clicking [here](#).

Note that the Education Mandated Cost Network has been successful in having two test claims approved by the CSM this year and both are in the claim submittal stage. See the article “[Reminder: Submit Claims for FAFSA and CADAA Mandate](#)” in the February 2025 *Fiscal Report* for information on that test claim.



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Reminder: Submit Claims for FAFSA and CADAA Mandate



BY KYLE HYLAND



BY BRIANNA GARCÍA

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posted February 18, 2025

The deadline for the submittal of initial claims for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Application (CADAA) mandate is almost here.

As detailed in the article “[Submit Claims for FAFSA and CADAA Mandate](#)” in the December 2024 *Fiscal Report*, the Commission on State Mandates (CSM) uses claims submitted within the first 120 days after the State Controller’s Office (SCO) releases the claiming instructions to arrive at a statewide cost estimate. If the Legislature and the Department of Finance determine the mandate will be included in the Mandate Block Grant, these claims form the basis for the State Budget appropriation to fund the costs of the mandated program.

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