December 2020

Deferral Exemption Reminder
Charter schools meeting the criteria for exemption from the February 2021 – May 2021 Principal Apportionment payment deferrals must apply for exemption using the CDE application. The deadline is December 15, 2020. A second application will be made available for the June 2021 apportionment deferral.

2019-20 Audit Report Submissions
Charter schools that operated in 2019-20, regardless of SELPA membership, are required to provide a copy of the 2019-20 independent audit report to the SELPA. Upload via the Fiscal Portal is available and a public site can be used when the audit firm itself is uploading the report. Audit reports should be submitted as they are finalized. Unless your school has formally notified the SELPA of an SB 98-related delay, audits are expected to the SELPA by December 15. The portal upload link is now available, as is the public upload link.

2020-21 Budget Advice
We encourage all partners to review the recorded Q&A webinar on the 2020-21 budget for important information on the state budget and impacts on special education funding. The recording is available on the Charter SELPA Business page.

- 2020-21 Charter Member Rate (State) = $625.00 per 2020-21 P-2 ADA (before admin fee & set-aside for new charters). 2020-21 P-2 ADA will be equal to 2019-20 P-2 ADA plus any qualified growth funding, as described in SB 820.
- 2020-21 Federal Rate = $125.00 per 2019-20 Enrollment/Fall 1 (before admin fee)
- ERMHS Level 1 = $10/PY ADA (opt-in required)
- ERMHS Level 2 = 80% of the lesser of $3,000/Dec 1 SEIS service count or ERMHS budget (opt-in required)
- ERMHS Level 3 Site-Based Therapeutic = 80% of approved budget (Fiscal Portal submission required)
- ERMHS Level 3 NPS = 90% of eligible ERMHS services (Fiscal Portal submission required)
- ERMHS Level 3 RTC = 100% of eligible Room and Board (Fiscal Portal submission required)
• Low Incidence = Up to $1000 for eligible materials/services per student, which may increase upon final funding determination (Fiscal Portal submission required)

**2020-21 ERMHS Funding**

**Level 1**
In addition to Levels 2 and 3 ERMHS funding, CEO Council has approved one-time Level 1 mental health funding for 2020-21. The funding will flow at $10/ADA and is intended to support anticipated increases in mental health needs across the entire student population resulting from extended COVID-related conditions.

Beginning in the 2020-21 fiscal year, state ERMHS funding will be issued under a new Resource code (6546 instead of 6512) and may be used for general education (Goal 1110) or special education (Goal 5xxx). We advise thoughtful monitoring of the use of your mental health funding this year, as these expenditure decisions may impact your Special Education MOE compliance in subsequent years. Specifically, carefully consider decisions to direct any Level 1 funding to special education or to direct amounts in excess the Level 1 allocation to general education.

**Level 2**

ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH PLAN (AMHP)
The window to submit AMPHs has closed and submissions are currently being reviewed. Your quick response to any inquiries or needed edits will ensure that you have access to the next step in securing Level 2 funding once it is made available, which is the Level 2 Budget Request.

*If your LEA did not submit an AMPH and you would like to receive Level 1 and/or Level 2 ERMHS funds, you must contact the business office immediately.*

**SEIS SERVICE COUNTS**
The ERMHS Level 2 funding formula uses two components: your ERMHS Level 2 budget and a count of eligible mental health services recorded in SEIS for your LEA on December 1, 2020. Three preliminary service counts were sent to your program representative to assist your LEA in making sure the data is accurate for the December 1 data pull. The December counts will be shared with your program representative and will be incorporated into the Level 2 Budget Request template to support calculation of your projected Level 2 funding.

**Level 3 Site-Based Therapeutic**
Level 3 Site-Based AMHPs and Budget Requests are currently being reviewed. Your quick response to any inquiries or needed edits will ensure the SELPA’s ability to release funds per the funding schedule.

**Level 3 NPS/Residential**
Requests for Level 3 funding for new placements are to be submitted via the Fiscal Portal within 30 days of the placement per the ERMHS Guidelines. 2020-21 Master Contract and ISA templates are currently available on the website.

**2020-21 Low Incidence Funding**

Low incidence funds are available for use on behalf of students certified as having a low incidence primary or secondary disability through the assessment and IEP process. The 2020-21 state budget provides for an increase in Low Incidence revenue to the SELPA, which allows for greater reimbursements to our partners.

The following criteria must exist for reimbursement:
- Student must have a low incidence disability
- The request must meet a minimum of $600
- The services and/or materials must be necessary for the student to meet their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) goals and objectives; for the student to access general education; be specialized as it relates to a need or the needs of the low incidence disability; and be indicated in a comprehensive evaluation which is completed by staff or a provider who is credentialed/knowledgeable of the low incidence disability area(s).

The minimum reimbursement amount per Low Incidence claim has been set at $1,000 for 2020-21. The maximum will be determined when all claims are submitted. The Low Incidence Reimbursement Request is currently available in the Fiscal Portal. We recommend submitting your request in the Fiscal Portal as soon as possible so we may begin our review process. Requests can be made based on anticipated expenditures; final funding is based on expenditures reported at year-end. You can find additional information on reimbursement requirements in the Low Incidence Guidelines.

**Important Upcoming Dates**

- **12/25/20** - SELPA offices closed
- **01/01/21** - SELPA offices closed
- **01/15/21** – ERMHS Level 2 Budget Requests Due (Available December 11, 2020)
- **01/22/21** – Mid Year Expenditure Report Due (Available January 4, 2021)

**Handy Links**

- Fiscal Portal
- Funding Detail
- State Cash Flow Projection
- Federal Cash Flow Projection
- Admin Fee Rates

**2020-21**
• Fiscal Calendar