



EL DORADO

**CHARTERSELPA**

*Fiscal Update*



## October 2022 Fiscal Update

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### Cash Advance Applications Due NOW

Charters in their first year with the Charter SELPA are excluded from participating in the advance apportionment and will not generate state special education funding until February of 2023. Although CDE delays funding, a charter school is still responsible to provide special education services to students. In order to mitigate the fiscal impact of this delay in first-year cash flow, the El Dorado Charter SELPA allocation plan enables a low-interest cash advance to charters new to the SELPA in 2022-23. [Applications](#) are due immediately.

### CALPADS Reporting – Fiscal Impacts

Fall 1 reporting has begun as of October 5, 2022. We'd like to use this time to reiterate some previous guidance around the importance of CALPADS reporting, especially as it relates to funding.

State-level data is generated from local data systems. As the state continues to build-out and increase its reliance on CALPADS for educational data, effective CALPADS data management at your LEA is increasingly vital. Since CALPADS data is used to determine funding, accurate data, and the ability to meet certification deadlines are exceedingly relevant to the fiscal health of your charter school.

LEAs that have built cross-departmental data teams, with collaboration between CALPADS data coordinators and special education coordinators, have met deadlines earlier and have had more time to ensure data accuracy than those that did not. Some LEAs have been severely challenged to meet deadlines because siloed data teams are working against each other.

All of this points to the need for a focus from school leadership on effective planning and management of internal data functions. FCMAT recommends two benchmarks to strive for to assist with timely CALPADS submissions:

1. Completing all data entry and clearing all input validations within 30 days of the submission start date.
2. Clearing all certification errors at least three weeks prior to the deadline to give staff, both the CALPADS data coordinator and the special education coordinator, ample time for review and work through any necessary corrections.

Leadership and action are needed at the LEA level to foster a local data culture that recognizes the importance of high-quality information for the benefit of students.

## **Fiscal Committee Meeting**

The Charter SELPA CEO Council meets twice each year (fall and spring). Fiscal Committee meetings are an opportunity for all Charter SELPA business staff to receive updates from the CEO Council meetings. These online meetings are scheduled shortly after each CEO Council meeting. The meetings provide a quick update on any CEO Council actions that impact the business office, as well as updates related to special education funding. All materials are subsequently posted on our website. The Fall Fiscal Committee meeting takes place on October 27 @ 11 am. Register [here](#) to attend.

## **Extraordinary Cost Pool**

CDE administers a statewide Extraordinary Cost Pool (ECP) SELPAs for extraordinary costs of single placements in nonpublic schools (NPS) and special education-related services for pupils residing in licensed children's institutions (LCI). SELPAs submit for reimbursement on behalf of member local educational agencies (LEAs) for eligible student placement costs in excess of the annual threshold (\$85,000 for 2021-22). In past years, the paltry funding of the pool left little to no benefit for Charter SELPA partners. However, the current year state budget included substantial funding increases. For 2022-23, the ECP increases from \$3 million to \$20 million. As details for accessing the funds are released, we will keep partners informed about the benefits available from the pool.

## **Low Incidence**

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 provided a significant increase in Low Incidence revenue to the SELPA, which allowed for greater reimbursements to our partners. We will continue to see this increase moving forward and recommend all partners take advantage of the low incidence funding available for your students. For the past two years, all eligible low incidence claims were paid at 100%! The 2022-23 Low Incidence Reimbursement Request template is not yet available in the Fiscal Portal as we continue to wrap up the 2021-22 reimbursements. You can find additional information on reimbursement requirements in the [Low Incidence Guidelines](#).

## Federal Revenue Update

- 2020-21 Federal funds were received and distributed on June 27, 2022.
- [2021-22 Federal funds](#) have not yet been received and will need to be fully accrued.

## 2022-23 State & Federal Budget Advice

- 2022-23 Charter Member Rate (State) = \$820 per the higher of each charter's 2020-21, 2021-22, or 2022-23 P-2 ADA (before admin fee & set-aside for new charters).
- 2022-23 Federal Rate = \$125.00 per 2021-22 Enrollment/Fall 1 (before admin fee).
- Mental Health Funding per CEO Council decisions in May:
- The CEO Council's action at the May 2022 meeting established that the SELPA should get ahead of inevitable direct funding by implementing a hybrid mental health funding model for 2022-23:
  - Directly fund partners based on P-2 ADA. These monthly distributions have begun at \$50/ADA and will be adjusted at P-1 and P-2.
  - Set aside a projected amount to fund approved 2022-23 Site-Based Therapeutic programs at 80% of eligible expenditures. If this amount is not sufficient, the reimbursements will be prorated.
  - Set aside a projected amount to fund NPS mental health services at 90% and RTC room and board at 100% of eligible expenditures. If this amount is not sufficient, the reimbursements will be prorated.
- Low Incidence = Up to \$1,000 for eligible materials/services per student, which may increase upon final funding determination (Fiscal Portal submission required).

## Important Upcoming Dates

**Past Due** – Cash Advance Application

**Past Due** – ERMHS Level 3 NPS/Residential Budget Request (Continuing Placements)

**10/13/22** – CEO Council Meeting (Sacramento)

**10/18/22** – Level 3 NPS/Residential Expenditures Report

**10/21/22** – ADA/Enrollment Report (incl RS 6536 and 6537 responses)

**10/27/22** – Fiscal Committee Meeting (virtual)

**10/31/22** – Checks issues (22-23) October State & Mental Health/ADA, Level 3 ERMHS

## Handy Links

[Fiscal Portal](#)

[Funding Detail](#)

[State Cash Flow Projection](#)

[Federal Cash Flow Projection](#)

[Admin Fee Rates](#)