

FEBRUARY PAYMENT INFORMATION

The payment will be electronically transferred to districts' accounts on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

2019 SECTION 31A AT-RISK PAYMENT

SB149, signed in December 2018 by Governor Snyder, included an additional \$18 million in Section 31a funds, to allow any district or public school academy receiving a 2019 31a payment less than the 2018 31a payment "an amount equal to its allocation under this section in 2017-2018 minus its allocation as otherwise calculated under this section for 2018-2019." The February 2019 payment includes these increases to 31a.

KINDERGARTEN EARLY ENROLLMENT

Section 1147 of the Revised School Code continues to allow parents to notify a district of an early kindergarten enrollment if their child will be 5 years of age by December 1 of the school year. Barring a legislative change, a parent's ability to notify a district of an early enrollment in kindergarten will continue in perpetuity. This should not be confused with the transition of the "5 by" deadline for [Great Start Readiness Programs](#) (GSRP).

DAYS, HOURS OF INSTRUCTION, AND 75% ATTENDANCE REPORTING

The legislatively mandated days, hours, and 75% attendance reporting requirements changed during the 2016-17 school year. The system capturing this information was retooled for that school year, narrowing the focus to capturing a limited amount of information for districts that are compliant with the Days, Hours, and Attendance requirements. If a district had a shortfall in meeting one of the requirements, detailed information must be reported through the state reporting system. The responsibility to review and certify district reports as accurate remains a function of the pupil membership auditors. To certify the accuracy of the information, districts will be required to provide documentation of the degree to which they satisfied each of the requirements to the pupil membership auditor. If your district does not already have a method for the capture of this information, contact your pupil membership auditor for the preferred mechanism of capturing this information. If the auditor does not have a preferred method for capturing this information, the Department has prepared [a tool for the purpose](#).

ALTERNATE COUNT DAY

If a district canceled school on count day, the district will need to request an alternate count day using the following form no later than March 15, 2019: <https://fs10.formsite.com/SASF/form8/index.html>. The alternate count day must take place on the next day in session; the alternate count day request remains approved even if the district does not resume session on the date projected in the district application.

ADDITIONAL FORGIVEN TIME

Current statute does not provide the authority to grant more than 3 additional days for any reason. Districts have the 6 original forgiven days and the option to apply for 3 additional days. The State Superintendent will grant additional forgiven time with the same consideration as in the past. The Department suggests that any district with 9 or more cancellations apply as soon as possible; Districts with 7 or 8 cancellations should apply if additional days are needed by the end of February to allow time to adjust their calendar should that be necessary. Additional forgiven time may be requested using the following link: <https://fs10.formsite.com/SASF/form9/index.html>.

STATE OF EMERGENCY DAYS

The Department has received several inquiries regarding how the days declared a State of Emergency by the Governor impact the day and hour requirements, and whether a statewide waiver would be issued. The State of Emergency has no effect on the required number of instructional days and hours. The Department does not have the authority to issue a statewide waiver and can only grant 3 additional days of forgiven time. Should applicable legislation be amended in the future, we will notify districts of the impact of the change.

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY REMINDERS

- All schools must use the standard budget transparency logo found on the Department's [website](#). It must measure at least 150 x 150 pixels and be immediately visible once your Main Home Page has loaded.
- March 1 is the deadline for updating Employee Compensation Information with 2018 calendar year data. A description and cost for each fringe benefit must be disclosed.
- Board approved budgets/amendments must include beginning and ending General Fund balances.

Questions related to Budget Transparency may be directed to Chad Urchike at UrchikeC1@michigan.gov or 517-335-1261.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- March 20 is the deadline for ISDs to submit to the Center for Educational Performance and Information the Audited FTE Counts for the October 3, 2018 Pupil Membership Count Day.
- February 13 was the FY 2019 Supplemental count date. The Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) records for the Supplemental count date are due to the Center by March 20, 2019 and are to be certified by March 27, 2019.
- The proration factor for Section 31a – At Risk funding is 78.36303360%.
- The Section 22d(4) funds are being paid at \$49.7568645692 per pupil.
- The Headlee Obligation for Data Collection funds are being paid at a rate of \$25.6294493066 per pupil.

*Do you have questions about the information appearing in this UPDATE? Call the consultants identified above or **Phil Boone, State Aid and School Finance, MDE**, phone: 517-335-4059, fax: 517-241-0196, e-mail: BooneP2@Michigan.gov