

Fiscal & Data Updates

Updated IDEA Part B Preliminary Allocation Tables

We are writing to inform you that FFY 2026 IDEA Part B allocations include a supplemental funding amount in addition to the regular IDEA Part B allocation. [The updated allocation tables reflect the required calculation of regular and supplemental funding amounts](#); however, your total IDEA Part B allocation has not changed. No additional action is required, and LEAs should continue to administer and budget these funds through the normal grant processes.

OSPI has updated the FFY 2026 IDEA Part B preliminary allocation tables to include the supplemental IDEA funding announced by the U.S. Department of Education on May 13, 2026.

Consistent with federal guidance released August 3, 2026, supplemental IDEA funds must be allocated to LEAs using the same IDEA allocation methodology as regular IDEA funds. As a result, allocation tables have been recalculated to reflect:

- FFY 2026 Regular IDEA Part B Allocation
- FFY 2026 Supplemental IDEA Part B Allocation
- Total FFY 2026 IDEA Part B Allocation

The **total FFY 2026 IDEA Part B allocation (regular plus supplemental funding) is included in FP 267 - Special Education: IDEA Part B (26–27)**. There will **not be a separate grant package** for the supplemental funds.

Please note that all FFY 2026 IDEA Part B allocations remain preliminary and are subject to change. Final allocations will be calculated upon receipt of the final federal award and updated enrollment information.

[Please use the updated allocation tables for budgeting and planning purposes](#). Contact speced.fiscal@k12.wa.us with any questions.

Special Education November Federal Child Count

The November Federal Special Education Child Count application, located in the Education Data System (EDS), will open for submission **November 1, 2026**. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) have until **December 16, 2026**, to verify and submit their November 2026 federal child count.

Data in the application comes directly from CEDARS and any corrections or changes must be made through a CEDARS submission. For information about how students are included or excluded from the child count, as well as instructions for reviewing, certifying, and submitting the report, please refer to the [Special Education Child Count User Guide](#). For questions related to CEDARS, please contact OSPI Student Information by [email](#).



After certifying the report in EDS, LEAs must print and sign the Certification Page and mail it to the address listed on the form. LEAs with no special education students are still required to complete the reporting process by accessing the application, reporting zero students, submitting the report, and mailing a signed Certification Page.

Once the report has been submitted and received, an automated confirmation email will be generated. If you do not receive the automated confirmation, review the submission steps in the [Special Education Child Count User Guide](#) to ensure the submission was completed successfully. The Special Education Data Team will no longer send an additional confirmation email.

For a complete list of Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) codes for the 2026–27 school year, including definitions and examples, refer to [CEDARS Appendix W](#). A Decision Tree for determining early childhood LRE codes is also available on the [OSPI Website](#).

The Child Count User Guide and additional resources are available on the [Federal Data Collection Forms webpage](#) of the OSPI Special Education website. For questions regarding the child count, please contact the Special Education Data Team by [email](#).

Post-School Outcomes Survey – closes November 1

Districts are reminded to complete the Post-School Outcomes Survey for students who exited special education during the 2024–25 school year. The survey is related to Indicator B-14, which measures the post-school outcomes of students with IEPs one year after leaving high school, including participation in higher education, competitive employment, and other postsecondary education, training, or employment.

For this data collection, leavers are students who exited high school during the 2024–25 school year with an IEP in effect at the time of exit. Districts should contact all eligible leavers (or their families) to collect information about their post-school activities and enter the results in the [Center for Change in Transition Services \(CCTS\) portal](#).

The CCTS portal **will close at the end of the day on November 1, 2026**. Districts should complete all contact attempts and data entry before the portal closes.

If you have any questions about the Post-School Outcomes Survey, contact ccts@seattleu.edu or 206-296-6494.

Special Education Personnel Employed and Contracted

The [Special Education Personnel Employed & Contracted](#) report is due by **5:00 pm on December 16, 2026**. Email the completed form to specialddata@k12.wa.us. This is a required federal report. The timeliness and accuracy of this report impacts the LEA determination level.

As of the first business day of November, report the Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) of all special education personnel employed or contracted to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities (IDEA) **ages 3 through 21** regardless of funding source (i.e., Part B

IDEA, State/entity, or local), **including personnel employed by private agencies**. *It may be appropriate for districts to use student IEPs to estimate Non-Public Agency (NPA) staff FTE.*

Please also note that paraprofessionals who meet the WA Paraeducator Minimum Employment Requirements from the Professional Educator Standards Board should be reported as fully certified. Subject matter specialty certificates are not a requirement for a paraeducator working in any program. Please refer to these guidance documents for more information:

- [WA paraeducator minimum employment and high school equivalencies](#)
- [FAQ Paraeducator Certificate Program](#)

For more information or questions about the [Special Education Personnel Employed & Contracted](#) report, see the [U.S. Department of Education Staff FTE File Specifications](#) or email specialddata@k12.wa.us.

OSPI Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program Office Hours

Please join us if you have questions or would like to discuss topics related to Data, Funding, or Program Improvement.

Office hours are held via Teams at 1–1:30 pm every Wednesday. Pre-registration is not required. During these office hours, participants can chat about current issues and ask questions. Breakout rooms will be available as needed for discussions on specific topics.

Please join using this link: [Special Education Data, Fiscal and Program Office Hours 2026–27](#).

If you have any questions regarding the Special Education Data, Fiscal, and Program office hours, please contact the [WISM team](#) or the [Special Education Data team](#).