



FundEd: Gifted Funding

Policies in Each State



Gifted

Some states provide increased funding for students identified as gifted. This report indicates which states consider gifted students when allocating state education funding, and if applicable, how they do so.

Alabama

Alabama provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so at an amount proportional to each district's total enrollment and through a competitive grant.

The state budget sets aside money to support gifted and talented students throughout the state. In FY2018, the state appropriated \$2.5 million for this purpose. The majority of the appropriation was provided to districts at an amount proportional to districts' enrollment and share of gifted students. Of the appropriation, \$750,000 was used for competitive two-year grants for public schools to develop or continue gifted and talented programs.

Alaska

Alaska provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.2 to the total enrollment count to generate additional funding for students with special needs, including gifted and talented students.

Districts must file plans with the Alaska Department of Education indicating the special-needs services they will provide in order to receive this funding.

Arizona

Arizona provides increased funding to schools for gifted and talented students. It does so through a flat per-student allocation, provided for a set proportion of students assumed to be gifted and talented.

Arizona assumes that gifted students make up 4% of the overall population in schools. The state provides a flat per-student allocation of \$75.00 for that proportion of students in order to provide for gifted and talented education. In districts where this calculation would produce less than \$2,000 in supplemental funding, the state provides \$2,000.

Arkansas

Arkansas provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in the form of a grant.

The state budget sets aside money to support gifted and talented students throughout the state. The state uses this money to provide grants to school districts with outstanding gifted and talented programs. Some of the money is also used to fund a summer program for gifted and talented youth.

California

California does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Colorado

Colorado provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through a limited-use grant.

Districts in Colorado receive funding under the Exceptional Children's Educational Act. These funds may be used for salaries of licensed, endorsed teachers who work with gifted and talented students; staff development and training needed by personnel to address the educational needs of these students; and activities, materials, and equipment associated with the education of gifted and talented students. School districts must develop program plans for gifted students and determine what local resources are needed to supplement the state money in order to carry out their plan.

In FY2017, Colorado provided \$12.2 million for these purposes.

Connecticut

Connecticut passed a new education funding formula in 2017 but is not yet making use of this formula. This formula is scheduled to go into effect in FY2019. The state legislature currently awards each district a block grant. The FY2018 grant amounts are derived from the amounts distributed in FY2017 in a manner specified in legislation.

As written, Connecticut's funding formula does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Delaware

Delaware does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

However, the state provides funding, called academic excellence units, to every district in proportion to its enrollment size that is intended to support certain educational services. There is a list of suggested and permissible uses for this funding that includes programs for gifted and talented students.

Florida

Florida provides increased funding for gifted and talented students in grades K-8. It does so in the form of a noncompetitive grant.

These funds are included in the Exceptional Student Education Guaranteed Allocation, which is a block grant provided to districts as part of their special education funding. (See "Special Education" for details about this allocation.) This grant is intended not only to support services for certain students with disabilities but also to provide for services for gifted and talented students in grades K-8. In FY2018, Florida provided about \$1.06 billion in Exceptional Student Education allocations.

Florida also provides increased funding for students in grades 9-12 who enroll in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate (IB), and Advanced International Certificate of Education programs. Students who successfully pass the subject exams generate additional funding. Increased funding is also provided for students who earn an IB diploma.

Georgia

Georgia provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.6656 to the base per-pupil amount for these students.

Students enrolled in a program implementing an approved gifted and talented model are eligible for this funding. The state considers gifted students to be a distinct category of students with special needs and distributes the money as part of its special education funding system.

Hawaii

Hawaii provides increased funding to schools for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.265 to the base per-pupil amount for a set proportion of students assumed to be gifted and talented.

Hawaii assumes that gifted students make up 3% of the overall population in schools. Hawaii applies this multiplier to the base amount for that proportion of students in order to provide for gifted and talented education.

The multiplier has been expressed this way for consistency with other states. The funding is actually provided in an amount equal to 0.265 times the per-pupil base amount, distributed in addition to the student's own base amount funding. The multiplier used is fixed annually by the state's Committee on Weights.

Idaho

Idaho does not currently provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

However, as recently as FY2017, Idaho allocated \$1 million for gifted and talented programs as a flat grant to districts and through a flat allocation for each such student.

Illinois

Illinois provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by adding a flat allocation for each student in the district.

For FY2019, the state increases each district's formula calculation by \$40 per student to support gifted and talented education. This money is calculated in accordance with the total enrollment of the district rather than a specific count of gifted and talented students.

Because the state plans to move toward full formula funding over the span of a number of years, annual increases in funding are distributed to districts with the greatest need for state assistance. Districts are sorted into tiers according to the degree to which their local funding capacity can be expected to cover their local education costs, and a greater percentage of additional state aid is distributed to districts with lesser funding capacity.

Indiana

Indiana provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in the form of a competitive grant.

School districts may apply for grants to support "High Ability Education." In FY2017, the total amount appropriated for this purpose was \$12.5 million.

Iowa

Iowa provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by designating a portion of the per-pupil base amount for gifted education programs only. This does not add to districts' total state education aid.

The state provides a flat amount (\$62 in FY2018) for each student in the district. This amount is intended to provide for 75% of the costs associated with gifted and talented education, and districts are required to provide the remaining 25% (\$20.67 in FY2017). This funding is increased annually by the same percentage as the per-pupil base amount, of which it is a part.

Kansas	<p>The Kansas Supreme Court ruled the state’s education funding formula unconstitutional on October 2, 2017. The Court has set a deadline of June 30, 2018 for the creation of a new funding system.</p>
Kentucky	<p>Kentucky provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in an amount proportional to each district’s total enrollment.</p> <p>The total amount appropriated for this purpose in FY2018 was \$6.62 million.</p>
Louisiana	<p>Louisiana provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.6 to the base per-pupil amount for these students.</p> <p>Gifted students in Louisiana are defined as those with evidence of high performance in academic and intellectual aptitude. They are identified through evaluations of math, reading, and intellectual abilities in general, as compared to the state average, and interviews with parents and educators.</p>
Maine	<p>Maine provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in the form of a non-competitive grant.</p> <p>To determine the amount of money to be appropriated for this purpose, the state uses the most recent audited report of financial data for approved actual expenses, or the approved budget, whichever is less, and then applies a multiplier for inflation.</p>
Maryland	<p>Maryland does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.</p>
Massachusetts	<p>Massachusetts does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.</p>
Michigan	<p>Michigan does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.</p>
Minnesota	<p>Minnesota provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through a flat allocation based on the size of a district's enrollment.</p> <p>The state provides districts with \$13 per student to support gifted and talented education. This money is allocated in accordance with the adjusted enrollment of the district, which is computed through the application of multipliers to the student count to adjust for the numbers of students in half-day kindergarten and grades 7-12 (see “Grade Level” for a description of this adjustment).</p> <p>This funding may be spent only on the identification of gifted and talented students, education programs for such students, and professional development for teachers teaching such students.</p>

Mississippi

Mississippi provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in a resource-based fashion, by allocating funding in an amount equal to each district's anticipated costs for salaries for teachers in gifted programs.

Annually, the state's Office of Advanced Learning and Gifted Programs provides an estimate of the teacher units needed for each district's gifted education programs to the Office of School Financial Services, which calculates the average salary drawn by gifted education teachers in each district based on personnel reports from the prior year, and then multiplies these numbers to produce the total amount of funding provided to the district for gifted education.

This funding is allocated with no use restrictions.

Missouri

Missouri does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Montana

Montana provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in the form of a matching grant. Districts must apply for this grant funding and match state funds with local funds.

For FY2018, the state legislature appropriated \$250,000 for this purpose.

Nebraska

Nebraska provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through a grant distributed outside the state's main education funding formula.

In FY2018, the state set aside a total of \$2.3 million to fund programs for these students. This money is raised through the Nebraska Lottery.

Nevada

Nevada provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through a flat allocation for each such student.

Each year, the state appropriates an amount for the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program. (This appropriation was \$6.37 million in FY2018.) This money is divided among districts to provide an equal supplemental funding amount for each student identified as gifted and talented through a state-approved assessment or procedure. Students funded through this program must receive at least 150 minutes per week of specialized educational activities.

Separately, the state mandates that districts spend a certain minimum amount each year, determined annually based on historical spending levels, enrollment changes, and inflation, on instructional materials and supplies for profoundly gifted students. No additional funding is provided specifically to support this mandate. The state may waive the requirement in times of economic hardship.

**New
Hampshire**

New Hampshire does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

New Jersey

New Jersey does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

However, the state considers the costs of gifted education in setting its base amount and expects that districts will be able to use a portion of the base funding to serve gifted and talented students.

New Mexico

New Mexico provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying multipliers to the base per-pupil amount for gifted students; these multipliers vary depending on the degree of modification the students require to the general education program.

These funds are distributed as a part of districts' special education funding. Like students with disabilities, each gifted student receives an individualized education program specifying the services required to serve him or her effectively. Depending on the level of services required, the state applies a multiplier to the base per-pupil amount that may range from range from 1.7 to 3.0. (See "Special Education" for a description of this allocation.)

New York

New York does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

North Carolina

North Carolina provides increased funding to schools for gifted and talented students. It does so through a flat per-student allocation that is provided for a set proportion of students assumed to be gifted and talented.

North Carolina assumes that gifted students make up 4% of the overall population in schools. The state provides a flat per-student allocation, which equaled \$1,314.56 in FY2018, for that proportion of students in order to provide for gifted and talented education.

North Dakota

North Dakota provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by reimbursing eligible districts and special education units for the cost of their gifted and talented programs.

In order to receive reimbursement, a district must submit an application that describes its program and provides assurances that they have credentialed staff for gifted and talented programs. State aid for this purpose totals approximately \$400,000 for each FY2018 and FY2019.

Ohio

Ohio provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through three program-based allocations that are calculated based on districts' total enrollment.

To provide for the identification of gifted students, the state provides \$5.05 per student in the district's total enrollment. Funding for Gifted Coordinator positions is allocated based on an assumed salary of \$37,370 for each coordinator, with funding for one coordinator provided for every 3,300 students in the district. Funding for Gifted Intervention Specialist positions is also allocated based on an assumed salary of \$37,370 for each specialist, with funding for one specialist provided for every 1,100 students in the district.

The state formula sets the minimum number of required coordinators at 0.5 per district and the maximum number at eight. It also sets the minimum number of required specialists at 0.3 per district.

Oklahoma Oklahoma provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.34 to the base per-pupil for these students.

The number of students generating funding for this purpose is the lesser of the sum of the number of students scoring in the top 3% on any national standardized test of intellectual ability and the number of students formally identified as gifted, or the sum of the number of students who scored in the top 3% on any national standardized test of intellectual ability plus 8% of the total enrollment of the school district.

The funding is actually provided in an amount equal to 0.34 times the per-pupil base amount, distributed in addition to the student's own base amount funding, which is first adjusted for grade level.

Oregon Oregon does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

However, the state does appropriate \$150,000 annually for a Talented and Gifted staff member at the state level to provide districts with technical assistance.

Pennsylvania Pennsylvania does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Rhode Island Rhode Island does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

South Carolina South Carolina provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.15 to the base per-pupil amount for these students.

Students enrolled in gifted and talented courses, Advanced Placement courses, or International Baccalaureate courses are eligible for this funding. Each student may generate this supplemental funding only once.

South Dakota South Dakota does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Tennessee Tennessee provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so as part of special education funding.

Tennessee includes gifted and talented students in the count of special-needs students for funding purposes. This means that gifted students are counted along with disabled students for the purposes of allocating funds for special education teachers, assistants, materials and supplies, instructional equipment, and travel. (See "Special Education" for a description of this allocation.)

Texas

Texas provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so by applying a multiplier of 1.12 to the base per-pupil amount for these students.

The number of students eligible for the supplemental funding is the number of full-time-equivalent students participating in gifted education programs, up to a maximum of 5% of the district's total student enrollment.

The funding is actually provided in an amount equal to 0.12 times the adjusted per-pupil base amount, which has already been adjusted for sparsity, small size, and local cost of living. (See "Base Amount" for more information.) It is distributed in addition to the student's own base amount funding.

Utah

Utah provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through multiple program-based allocations.

Districts and charter schools will receive funding for gifted and talented programs, advanced placement (AP) programs and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs, if they have them. An appropriation is divided between these programs according to a formula set by the Utah State Board of Education. In FY2018, the amount appropriated for this purpose was about \$5 million.

Of this total, funding for gifted and talented programs is distributed in proportion to the district's weighted student count compared to the state total. Funding for AP programs is distributed based on the number of students who pass AP exams. Half of funding for IB programs is distributed equally among all authorized IB programs in the state, and the other half is distributed to districts based on exams passed as part of the IB Diploma program.

Vermont

Vermont does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Virginia

Virginia provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through the resource-based component of its formula by specifying student-to-staff ratios for gifted education and providing funding for staff positions accordingly, and by funding outside-school programming for students identified as gifted.

The state assigns a ratio of 1,000 enrolled students to 1 gifted education teacher. This ratio determines the number of gifted education teacher units to which a district is entitled. (The actual number of students identified as gifted is not considered in the allocation of these units.)

The state also provides funding for Governor's School programs, which are academic-year and summer programs that provide gifted students with academic and visual and performing arts opportunities beyond those normally available in their home schools.

Washington

Washington provides increased funding for gifted and talented students to districts. It does so through its resource-based formula by specifying ratios of full-time-equivalent gifted students to hours of instructional time and providing funding for staff positions accordingly.

The state assigns a rate of 2.159 hours per week of additional instructional time for every 15 full-time-equivalent gifted students. These hours are converted into full-time-equivalent staff positions. The state then provides funding for staff positions by multiplying the state minimum salary allocation for each staff type by an adjustment for regional cost.

The number of students for which districts may receive this funding is set at a percentage of the district's total enrollment. As of FY2018, the legislature intends to allocate funding based on 5% of the student population.

West Virginia

West Virginia does not provide increased funding for gifted and talented students.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so in the form of competitive grant program.

The state awards grants to school districts, nonprofit organizations, and institutions within the University of Wisconsin system for the purpose of providing special services and activities to gifted and talented students.

The grants are awarded by application. In FY2018, the total amount appropriated for this purpose was \$237,200, and individual awards were limited to \$30,000.

Wyoming

Wyoming provides increased funding for gifted and talented students. It does so through a flat allocation for each student in the district.

In FY2018, the state provided districts with \$40.29 per student to support gifted and talented education. This money is allocated in accordance with the total enrollment of the district.

This funding is allocated with no use restrictions.

For a complete list of primary sources, please see the appropriate state page at funded.edbuild.org

