

FundEd: New Hampshire Report

A Detailed Look at New Hampshire's Funding Policies



New Hampshire



Funding Basics

Formula Type

New Hampshire has a primarily student-based funding formula. It assigns a cost to the education of a student with no special needs or services, called a base amount. It then accounts for the additional cost of educating specific categories of students by adding supplemental, flat dollar amounts to the base amount for each student in those categories and through program-based allocations.

The categories of students generating supplemental funding in New Hampshire are English-language learners, low-income students, and students with disabilities. Services for students enrolled in career and technical education programs are funded through program-specific allocations.

Base Amount

New Hampshire has a fixed base funding amount. For FY2018, the per-student base amount was \$3,636.06. This means that an average student with no special needs or disadvantages would be funded at that level.

Local Revenue

Expected Local Share

New Hampshire expects its school districts to raise revenue to support their public schools. The amount each district is expected to raise is based on a combination of its property values and a defined share of the amount calculated by the state to be necessary to educate its students.

Statewide, school districts are expected to contribute a total of \$363 million to public education. The Department of Revenue Administration determines the property tax base in each municipality and sets a uniform education tax rate that will produce a total of \$363 million in local revenue when applied to the tax base in all municipalities. This target was set in 2005 and has not been adjusted for inflation. In FY2018, this tax rate was \$2.26 for every \$1,000 of assessed local property wealth. Each municipality gives the revenue directly to its local school district. Once the state calculates the total amount of funding necessary to educate students within a district, it subtracts the expected local contribution and provides the difference in the form of state education aid.

Property Tax Floors and Ceilings

New Hampshire sets a floor for local property tax rates. School districts in New Hampshire do not directly impose property taxes. Municipalities impose a statewide education property tax at a rate that is set by the state and may also impose local education property taxes.

The Department of Revenue Administration determines the property tax base in each municipality and sets tax rates that raise a total of \$363 million in local revenue when applied to the tax base in all municipalities. In FY2018, this tax rate was \$2.26 for every \$1,000 for every \$1,000 of assessed local property wealth. In practice, however, the rate for the statewide education property tax has varied somewhat from municipality to municipality. In addition, municipalities may raise additional local property taxes for school purposes, which are not limited.

Other Local Taxes for Education

School districts in New Hampshire receive local revenue only from property taxes.

District Characteristics

Grade Level

New Hampshire does not differentiate funding based on students' grade levels.

English-Language Learner

New Hampshire provides increased funding for English-language learners (ELLs). It does so in the form of a flat allocation for each student receiving English-language instruction. In FY2018, this allocation was \$711.40 per eligible student.

Poverty

New Hampshire provides increased funding for students from low-income households. It does so in the form of a flat allocation for each low-income student. In FY2018, this allocation was \$1,818.02 per eligible student.

Students are eligible for this supplemental funding if they qualify for free or reduced-price lunch (FRL) under the National School Lunch Program. Students from households receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are automatically eligible, while others are eligible if parents or guardians provide income information demonstrating FRL-eligibility.

Special Education

New Hampshire funds special education using a single student weight system, providing the same amount of state funding for each student with disabilities, regardless of the severity of those disabilities.

It does so in the form of a flat allocation for each student with disabilities. In FY2018, this allocation was \$1,956.09 per eligible student.

Gifted

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

Career and Technical Education

New Hampshire provides increased funding for career and technical education (CTE) programs. It does so through program-based allocations for CTE tuition and transportation to regional CTE centers.

The state appropriates funding annually for CTE tuition support. This appropriation is distributed to districts in proportion to the number of students enrolled in their CTE programs. The state also reimburses districts for the cost of transporting students to regional CTE centers.

Sparsity and/or Small Size

New Hampshire does not provide increased funding for sparse districts or for small schools or districts.

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

