

**Consortium of Directors of Special Education
Overview of Possible Special Education Funding Scenarios
Based on December 2021 Pupil Count**

General Data		
Tier B Pupil Count *without state operated programs	23,898	<i>(Increase of 319 students from 2020 count)</i>
All Other Disabilities Count *without state operated programs	84,407	<i>(Increase of 1,686 students from 2020 count)</i>
Total 2021 Pupil Count (Tier A) *without state operated programs	108,305	<i>(Total increase of 2,005 students from 2020 count)</i>
Tier B Per Pupil Funding for 2022-23		\$4,317.70
Tier B Per Student % of \$6000 <i>\$6,000 maximum funding level set in 2006</i>		72%
Percent of Tier B Students Fully Funded at \$6000		72%

**State Operated Programs are the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, the Colorado Mental Health Institute in Pueblo, the Colorado Department of Corrections, and the Colorado Division of Youth Services. They do not receive funding directly from the Exceptional Children's Education Act (ECEA), as distributed by CDE. They are each funded through a line item for students with disabilities in the Long Bill.*

If Additional Funding Were Available, Based on December 2021 Pupil Count					
For All Students with Disabilities (Tier A) <i>Listed on back of chart</i>					108,305
Increase per student funding to \$2,000 per student <i>Current funding of \$1,750 per student, increased 2022 from 2006 level</i>				\$27,076,250 <i>(108,305 x \$250)</i>	
Double current per pupil funding to \$3,500 per student <i>Current funding of \$1,750 per student, increased 2022 from 2006 level</i>				\$189,533,750 <i>(108,305 x \$1,750)</i>	
For future years, annually increase Tier A per pupil funding by same percentage as applied to School Finance Act					
For Students with Disabilities also in Tier B <i>Listed on back of chart</i>					23,898
Additional Funding	Per Pupil Amount	2022/2023 Per Pupil Amount	New Per Pupil Amount	Percentage of \$6,000 funded per student	Percentage of students fully funded at \$6,000
\$10M	\$418.45	\$4,317.70	\$4,736.15	78.9%	78.9%
\$20M	\$836.89	\$4,317.70	\$5,154.59	85.9%	85.9%
\$40M	\$1,673.78	\$4,317.70	\$5,991.48	99.9%	99.9%
\$40,203,605.40	\$1,682.30	\$4,317.70	\$6,000.00	100%	100%
Additional Information to Consider					
Increasing the state share of special education funding for Tier A and Tier B will benefit all school districts in the state. Currently available figures (from FY 2020-21*) show state share of special education expenditures at 20%, federal share at 14% and local districts covering 66% of actual costs from their local general fund dollars, diverting resources from other local education priorities.					
The Consortium recommends improving funding for Tiers A and B, rather than High-Cost Pool in order to more fully benefit all school districts/administrative units in the state, assisting them in building capacity.					

**FY 2020-2021 is the most recent year for which this data is available.*

Pupil Count Figures Obtained from CDE, calculated by V. Graham, February 3, 2023

Disability Categories: (Tier A Funding for All Students with Disabilities)

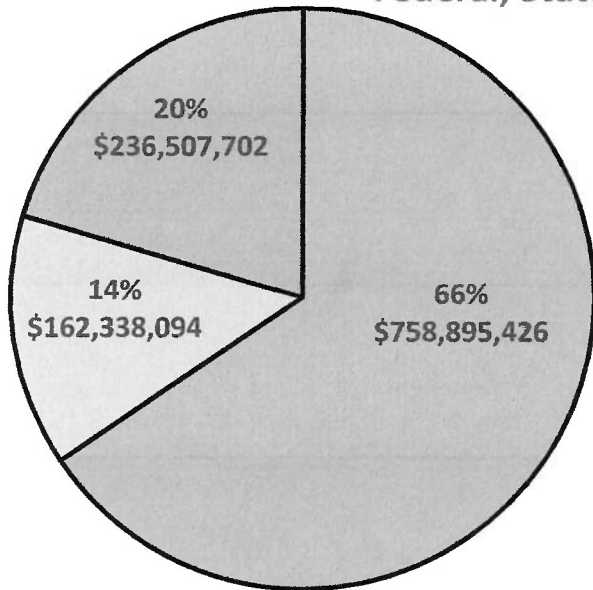
- Intellectual Disability
- Serious Emotional Disability
- Specific Learning Disability
- Hearing Impairment, including Deafness
- Visual Impairment, including Blindness
- Physical Disability
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Deaf-Blind
- Multiple Disabilities
- Preschooler with a Disability
- Infant/Toddler with a Disability
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment

Tier B is comprised of students identified with the following disability categories:

- Visual Impairment, including Blindness
- Hearing Impairment, including Deafness
- Deaf-Blind
- Serious Emotional Disability
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Multiple Disabilities
- Intellectual Disability

Additional information and detail is available through the Consortium of Directors of Special Education, by contacting Lucinda Hundley, (303) 378-7370 or hundleylg0207@gmail.com

Colorado Special Education Expenditures, Including Federal, State and Local Share



20-21 data

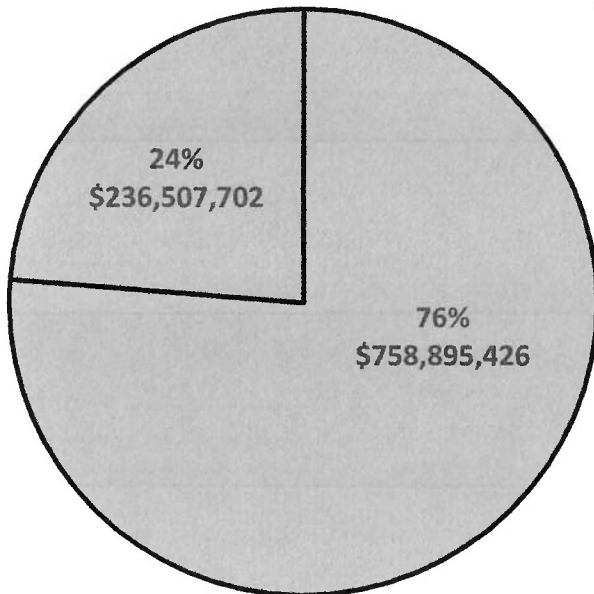
- Un-Reimbursed Expenditures (Local)
- Reimbursed Expenditures from Federal Funds
- Reimbursed Expenditures from State Funds

Total Expenditures: \$1,157,741,221

Data from FY 20/21

never exceeded 17%

Colorado Special Education Expenditures: Local vs. State Share



- Un-Reimbursed Expenditures (Local Share)
- State Payments/Expenditures

Total State and Local Expenditures: \$995,403,128

Data from FY 20/21

