



## English Learner Students in Evidence-Based Funding

Bilingual Program Directors Meeting

October 5, 2021



## Poll

- A. I have engaged with my district on planning via the EBF Spending Plan.
- B. I am a returning bilingual director and have not engaged with my district on planning via the EBF Spending Plan.
- C. I am new as a bilingual director and have not engaged with my district on planning via the EBF Spending Plan.





## Who we are

- Madeleine Polovick- Principal Consultant, Multilingual
- Natasha Wilkins- Senior Resource Allocation Policy Specialist, Finance



## Agenda

- What Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) is ***attributable to English Learners***? How is it calculated?
- How can a district collaboratively ***decide how to spend*** its EBF attributable to English Learners?
- What **opportunities to support districts** in planning supports for English Learners could be strengthened **in an EBF Spending Plan redesign**?



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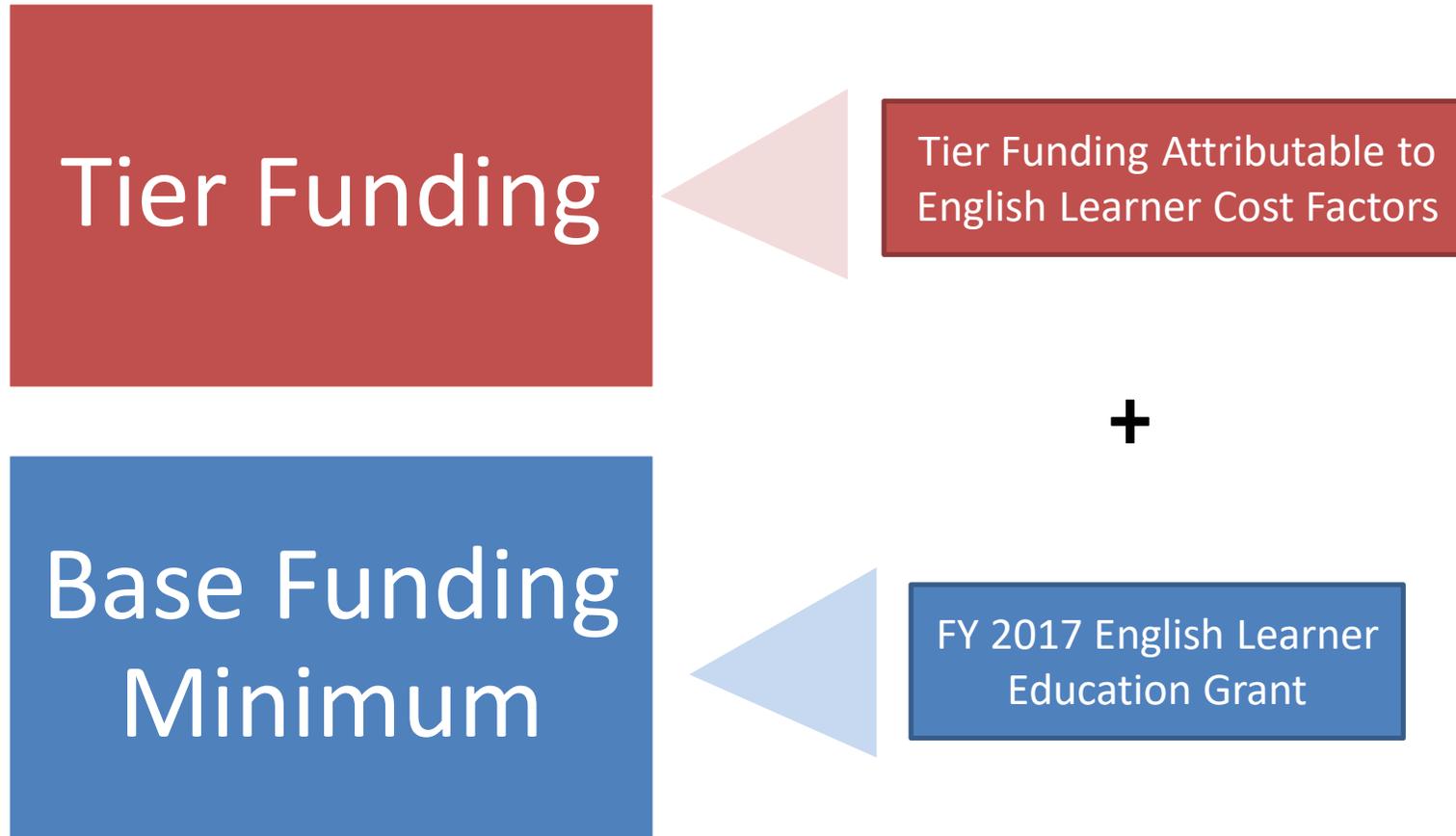


## Where did dollars for English Learners go in the EBF transition?

- When implemented for FY 2018, **EBF consolidated and replaced** five grants that had been received in FY 2017:
  - Gross General State Aid + Stop Loss Grant (if applicable)
  - English Learner Education
  - Special Ed Personnel
  - Special Ed Funding for Children
  - Special Ed Summer School
- Altogether, this money made up a district's FY 2018 Base Funding Minimum.
- On top of the Base Funding Minimum, the General Assembly can appropriate **new money**, called "tier funding."



## FY 2018 English Learner Funding within EBF





## Allocations of EBF English Learner Funding

FY 2017 English Learner  
Education Grant

+

Tier Funding Attributable to  
English Learner Cost Factors

(Salaries + Benefits + Substitutes) = English Learner Costs in Adequacy Targets

English Learner Costs in Adequacy Targets / Adequacy Targets = Share of Tier Funding Attributed to English Learners

*Amounts are provided **in addition to** and **not in lieu of all other funding** of EBF cost factors.*

English Learner student funding allocations available at <https://www.isbe.net/ebfdist>.

Look for the Student Population Funding Allocation – Summary spreadsheets.



## District Percentage of Adequacy

Evidence-Based Funding compares district resources to the cost of providing an education.

Additional Investments for English Learner students contribute to that cost of providing an education.

That total cost is based on the individual student demographics of each district and is labeled the **“Adequacy Target.”**

$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Final} \\ \text{Resources} \\ \hline \end{array} \div \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Adequacy} \\ \text{Target} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Final \% of} \\ \text{Adequacy} \\ \hline \end{array}$$



## Additional Investments in Adequacy Targets (Per-Pupil Ratios)





## English Learner Student Enrollment Used in Calculations

- Enrollment recorded twice each year: October 1 and March 1.
- Enrollment for each school year is the average of the October and March enrollment.
- Generally, Evidence-Based Funding calculations use the greater of:
  - Three-year average of enrollment.
  - The most recent year of enrollment.
- To mitigate the impact of COVID-19: EL enrollment for FY 2021 is represented by the greater of the actual FY 2021 EL enrollment or the FY 2020 EL enrollment, for use as the FY 2021 enrollment, as compared to the 3-year average.



## FY21 Additional EL Funding - Calculation Example

2019 EL	2020 EL	2021 EL	3 Year Average	Greater Value
2,534	2,626.5	2,778.5	2,646.3	<b>2,778.5</b>

- Intervention Teacher (125:1)       $2,778.5 / 125 =$       22.22 Intervention Teachers
- Pupil Support (125:1)       $2,778.5 / 125 =$       22.22 Pupil Support
- Extended Day Teacher (120:1)       $2,778.5 / 120 =$       23.15 Extended Day Teachers
- Summer School Teacher (120:1)       $2,778.5 / 120 =$       23.15 Summer School Teachers
- EL Core Teacher (100:1)       $2,778.5 / 100 =$       27.78 English Learner Core Teachers

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*Amounts are provided in **addition to** and **not in lieu of all other funding** of EBF cost factors.*



## Allocations of EBF English Learner Funding

Positions X Average Teacher Salary

(Salaries + Benefits + Substitutes) = English Learner Costs in Adequacy Targets

English Learner Costs in Adequacy Target

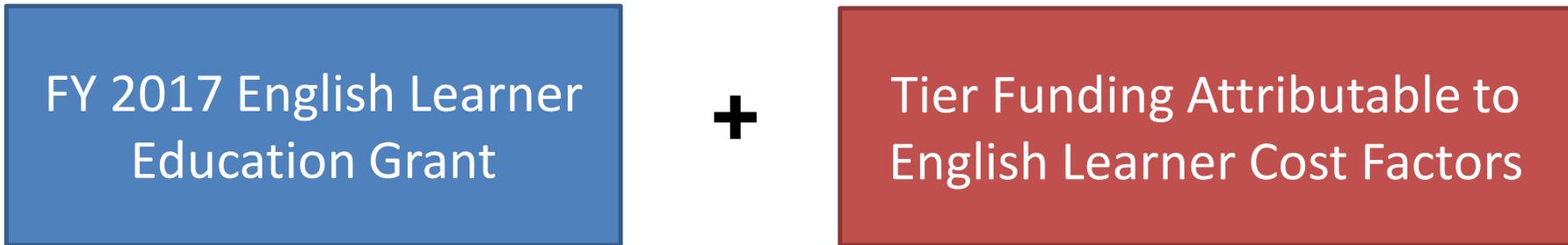
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Total Adequacy Target

= Share of Tier Funding  
Attributable to English Learners



## Allocations of EBF English Learner Funding



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## Poll

- True or False: EBF still maintains funding allocations specific to English Learner students.

A. True

B. False





- What Evidence-Based Funding is ***attributable to English Learners?*** How is it calculated?
- How can a district collaboratively ***decide how to spend*** its Evidence-Based Funding attributable to English Learners?
- What **opportunities to support districts** in planning supports for English Learners could be strengthened **in an EBF Spending Plan redesign?**



## Evidence-Based Funding Spending Plan

- EBF state statute requires each Organizational Unit (school districts, laboratory schools, Regional Offices of Education, and Intermediate Service Centers) to complete an annual spending plan describing:
  - How total EBF dollars will be spent.
  - How EBF dollars specifically allocated for English Learners, special education, and low-income students will be spent.
- Requirement applies *regardless* of the amount of EBF dollars appropriated.
- Due by Sept. 30 each year.



## EBF Spending Plan: Parts I and II

- I. What strategies will drive your efforts to achieve student growth and make progress toward state education goals in FY 202?
  - I. *Most easily and effectively completed if led by district program leaders in consultation with district finance leaders.*
  
- II. What will you do with your Evidence-Based Funding? Why?
  - I. *Most easily and effectively completed if led by district finance leaders in consultation with district program leaders.*



## EBF Spending Plan: Part III

### III. How will you support special student groups through Evidence-Based Funding?

- I. *Most easily and effectively completed if led by district program leaders in consultation with district finance leaders.*

#### *Most important questions for English Learner/Bilingual Program directors:*

16. Please indicate in which positions, programs, and/or services your school district will invest EBF dollars designated for students who are English Learners (ELs). Note that, per EBF statute, these resources should be "in addition to and not in lieu of" funding that benefits all students. All students are entitled to a classroom, a core teacher, instructional materials, assessments, etc.; the intent of these designated funds is to accelerate learning for specific students, beyond what is typically provided. Per Article 14C of the Illinois School Code, 60% of the school district's state funds attributable to ELs must be used for instructional costs of programs and services for ELs (Function 1000 according to the Illinois Program Accounting Manual).
17. Please indicate the single group with which the district engaged that most informed your intended allocation of EBF dollars on ELs.



## EBF Spending Plan: Part III

Existing and new positions, programs, and/or services to be provided	Existing and new EBF investments additionally benefiting <u>English Learners</u> , in addition to what is provided through a general program of instruction	(Optional) Existing or new EBF dollar amount to be invested	(Optional) Explanation of allocation decisions and/or FTEs reflected in the dollar amount specified
[18 listed options, including "other," targeted for the students in question]	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	



## EBF Spending Plan: Part III supplement

### English Learners Assurances

- Assurance that at least 60% of the district's state funds attributable to ELs will be used for instructional costs of programs and services for ELs, and the remaining balance of state funds attributable to ELs will also be used to serve ELs.
- For applicable districts, assurance that the district's Bilingual Parent Advisory Council has reviewed the EBF Spending Plan.
- For applicable districts, name of Bilingual Parent Advisory Council chair and date of meeting for EBF Spending Plan review.



## English Learner EBF Expenditure Report

- Organizational Units that receive more than \$5,000 in EL EBF funds must submit an expenditure report detailing how EL funds were expended.
  - Any funds not expended in the prior fiscal year will appear in the current fiscal year's report.
- The report should affirm that 60% of the district's state funds attributable to ELs will be used for instructional costs of programs and services for ELs per the requirements of [Article 14C of the School Code](#).
- The report is due annually by July 20 and is located in IWAS.
- For additional information, visit <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Multilingual-District-Resources.aspx>.



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## The EBF Spending Plan will be Redesigned

- ISBE strategic Plan strategy 2.2.2(A)
- Redesign the EBF Spending Plan to highlight designated funds, be meaningful and user-friendly to districts, and be supported by integrated ISBE supports.
- By FY 2024, the EBF Spending Plan will no longer be a document solely submitted to ISBE but rather integrated into an already existing plan.



## The EBF Spending Plan will be Redesigned

- The Redesign Process
  - ISBE has begun developing an advisory team with members from districts and advocacy organizations.
  - Advisory group will provide:
    - Insight on the value proposition for the EBF Spending Plan.
    - Recommendations on the substantive content of the EBF Spending Plan.
    - Recommendations for where the EBF Spending Plan should be integrated.
- Fully redesigned and implemented EBF Spending Plan will premier by FY 2024.
- Send any thoughts or suggestions to [ebfspendingplan@isbe.net](mailto:ebfspendingplan@isbe.net).



## Q&A | Thank You

Questions about Evidence-Based Funding for English Learners?

Best practices to share with others on collaborating to determine spending of Evidence-Based Funding for English Learners?

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EBF Spending Plan team – [ebfspendingplan@isbe.net](mailto:ebfspendingplan@isbe.net)