

Public Facility Rate Setting Update Public Act 103-0644

Mary Lanoue, Supervisor, Special
Education Department, ISBE

Andy Krupin, Director, Funding and
Disbursements Department, ISBE



What is a Sperate Public Day School?

- 105 ILCS 5/14-1.08a (new)

Sec. 14-1.08a- Separate public special education day school.

“Separate public special education day school” means a separate special education program or facility that is established by a school district, public school, regional office of education, or special education cooperative exclusively to meet the needs of special education students who cannot be educated in the general school environment and that provides services comparable to a private special education school.

Criteria for a Separate Public Special Education Day School

- Program located in a separate building
 - Students enrolled are 100% removed from general education
 - The program does not serve general education students
 - The program does not have general education students in the building nor are the special education students attending classes with general education students
- * Beyond the above criteria, the same standards that apply to an existing special education program would apply to a new program.

Application Approval Process

Submit completed Application for Eligibility per RCDTS code seeking approval
Submit to publicsped@isbe.net

All new programs require a separate RCDTS code.

Complete the Entity Addition Application. Submit request to
EPSchange@isbe.net

Once new code is created, send in Application for Eligibility for new program to publicsped@isbe.net

Application Approval Process-Continued

Code must be created prior to submission of Application for Eligibility or financial information is submitted

2-year approval – approval begins the school year the application was received

Continuing approval - next application due on or before March 15 of the final year of approval.

Programs will receive notification on approval status

Application for Eligibility



555 West Monroe Street, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60661

APPLICATION FOR ELIGIBILITY OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS TO SERVE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES under Public Act 103-0644

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Per Public Act 103-0644, "separate public special education day school" means a separate special education program or facility that is established by a school district, public school, Regional Office of Education, or special education cooperative exclusively to meet the needs of special education students who cannot be educated in the general school environment and that provides services comparable to a private special education school.

ALL programs or facilities must submit a completed application per RCDS code requesting a tuition rate to be established. Applications should be completed AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, but no later than March 15 for each year of eligibility. If on a 2-year approval, applications are only required by March 15 of the 2nd year of approval. Completed applications can be submitted to publiscaped@isbe.net.

OFFICIAL NAME OF THE PUBLIC SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM	PHONE (Include Area Code)
ADDRESS (Include City, State, and ZIP Code)	FAX (Include Area Code)
SITE ADMINISTRATOR	SITE ADMINISTRATOR EMAIL ADDRESS
RCDS CODE	COUNTY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR SUPERINTENDENT	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMAIL ADDRESS
DESIGNATED FINANCIAL CONTACT	FINANCIAL CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS	ACCEPTED AGE RANGE	CURRENT YEAR ENROLLMENT	EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS	ACCEPTED AGE RANGE	CURRENT YEAR ENROLLMENT
A. INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY			H. SPEECH OR LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT		
B. ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT			I. EMOTIONAL DISABILITY		
C. SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY			J. OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENT		
D. VISUAL IMPAIRMENT			K. MULTIPLE DISABILITIES		
E. HEARING IMPAIRMENT			L. DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY (3 THROUGH 9 YEARS OLD)		
F. DEAFNESS			M. AUTISM		
G. DEAF-BLINDNESS			N. TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY		

Maximum Number of Illinois Students That will be Allowed at this Site: _____

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Program Description

Please provide a program description that outlines the following: the disability categories and ages of students that the program serves or is able to serve; the disability and instructional style for each listed eligibility category; the maximum number of students the program can serve based on the current level of staffing, facility size, and any other constraints to program size; programmatic outcomes and the data that will be collected on the programmatic outcomes achieved by those students; a description of the program's philosophy and methodology to reintegrate students into the general education environment or supporting students towards their least restrictive environment; and a description of what related services will be offered, how they will be provided, and by whom they will be provided.

(200 Word Limit)

Statement of Assurance

I, the undersigned, attest that the information provided on and included with this application is accurate and true, that this Program is in compliance with applicable Rules and Regulations for Approval of a Separate Public Special Education Program under 105 ILCS 5/14-1.08a of the School Code of Illinois, and meets the following criteria:

1. Program is located in a separate building.
2. Students enrolled are 100% removed from general education.
3. The program does not serve general education students and.
4. The program does not have general education students in the building nor are the special education students attending classes with general education students.

Digital or Original Signature of Executive Director or Superintendent	Title	Date

ISBE Use Only:

<input type="checkbox"/> Qualifying Program or Facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Description Provided
<input type="checkbox"/> Updated in Entity Profile System	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Qualifying Program or Facility
	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Purchased Care Review Board

ISBE 53-34 (12/25)

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Key Reminders

- Request new RCPTS codes prior to submission of application or financials
- Keep staff listed up to date
- Submit all questions to publicsped@isbe.net

Rate Setting Update

Key Players in Public Rate Setting Process

Purchased Care Review Board

- Independent body made up of seven voting members from various state agencies
- Review and approve tuition rates calculated by ISBE/MGT; rates serve as the aforementioned basis of reimbursement

MGT

- Contractors hired by ISBE to facilitate rate calculation
- Collect and review reports submitted by districts and cooperatives
- Assist districts and cooperatives with technical questions about report completion

ISBE Funding and Disbursements

- ISBE Department that assists the Purchased Care Review Board with the rate calculation process

School Year 2024-2025 Results

- 172 public facility tuition rates, including intensive programs, were approved by the Illinois Purchased Care Review Board in School Year 2024-2025.
 - 122 Base Programs
 - 50 Intensive Rate Programs

	Average Rate		Maximum Rate	
	Per diem	Annual*	Per diem	Annual*
2024-25	\$260.33	\$45,818.08	\$682.40	\$120,102.40

*Based upon a school year with 176 school days

School Year 2024-2025 Results

Tuition Cost Entered by Districts

- \$228,515,655 Total Tuition Cost
- 7,155 Students
- \$31,937 per student

Reimbursement

- \$44,981,019 – 100% Reimbursement
- \$28,119,299 – Actual Reimbursement
- 63% Reimbursement Proration

Reimbursement Formula (Step 1 – Step 2) * Step 3

- Step 1: Calculate Cost of Educating Student:
Should be $(Days\ Enrolled * Per\ Diem\ Rate)$
- Step 2: Calculate Applicable Local Portion:
 $2 * PCTC * ADE$
- Step 3: Calculate and Apply Proration:
$$\frac{Statewide\ sum\ of\ (Step\ 1 - Step\ 2)}{Funding\ Appropriated}$$

Per Capita Tuition Charge (PCTC) is the amount a local district charges as tuition to nonresident students as defined by Sections 18-03 and 10-20.12a of the School Code.

Average Daily Enrollment (ADE) is Days Enrolled / Days in Session.

Brief History of the Public/Private Tuition Categorical

<i>In \$ thousands</i>	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26*
Appropriation	\$182,900.0	\$202,732.4	\$202,732.4	\$202,732.4
Proration Percentage	98%	91%	77%	63%
Change in Proration Percentage		(7)%	(14)%	(14)%

*FY26 is the first year that reimbursements were combined for both public and private tuition.

- Proration was driven by both a combination of reimbursements for the first time, but also by a natural increase in private facility tuition cost year over year.
- Less increase in private facility cost from FY25 to FY26 resulted in comparative overall impact to appropriation after adding in publics.

School Year 2025-2026 Status

- Rate calculation is in progress for School Year 2025-2026.
- Through the February 2026 meeting, 41 rates have been approved and approximately 40 are due to go to PCRFB at the March 2026 meeting.
- ISBE anticipates 192 rates being brought to PCRFB for approval in School Year 2025-2026.

PCRB Frequently Asked Questions

- The PCRB typically compares this year's materials to last year's.
- Why is average program enrollment decreasing, but costs are increasing?
 - ISBE and MGT inquire about the means of calculating total enrollment days and the comparison between ISTAR and the cooperative's or district's values.
- Why is program salary cost going up by X%?
 - ISBE or MGT will inquire about overall staffing levels, and salary for each position on a 1.0 FTE basis.
- Why are X, Y, or Z costs doubling, tripling, or quadrupling from year to year?
 - ISBE or MGT will frequently ask for an explanation of the cost increases when costs have increased either in absolute dollar terms or as a notable percentage.

Rate Setting and Claims Timeline – School Year 2025 through School Year 2026

March through June 2026 – Rate Setting

- Rates will continue to be set for School Year 2025-2026 public programs, as usual, through the June 2026 PCRBR meeting.

July 2026 – Final Meeting of PCRBR to Set School Year 25-26 Public Rates

- Final tuition rates set. PCRBR rules prohibit setting tuition rates after the first meeting in July.

August 2026 – Claims due in ISTAR

- Reimbursement claims for Fund S students must be entered no later than August 15, 2026.
- Approval records may be edited through September 15, 2026. Claim corrections may be made through September 30, 2026.

September 2026 – Reimbursement Begins

- ISBE will process School Year 2025-2026 reimbursement in quarterly installments in September 2026, December 2026, March 2027 and June 2027.

Rate Setting for School Year 2026-2027

- The earliest that rates will be brought to the PCRFB for approval for School Year 2026-2027 is June 2026.
- Rate review and approval occurs on a rolling basis and is not complete until the following July. All public facilities will not have their rate presented for approval at the June 2026 meeting.
- Tuition rates will be considered and approved through July 2027.
- School Year 2027-2028 materials will be due to ISBE on January 15, 2027.

Changes for School Year 2026-2027

- ISBE is seeking a legislative change to amend the Special Education Orphanage law so that the rate calculated and approved by PCRFB is used for Orphanage reimbursement for children placed at separate public facilities starting in School Year 2026-2027 (reimbursed in FY27).
- This is consistent with how ISBE reimburses for placement in a nonpublic facility.

Funding and Disbursements Staff

- Andy Krupin, Director (akrupin@isbe.net)
- Alison Ogunmokun, Public Facility Rate Analyst (aogunmok@isbe.net)
- Christine Kolaz, Public Facility Rate Analyst (ckolaz@isbe.net)
- Lisa Norman and Rita Persaud from MGT are available at isbeserquestions@mgt.us.
- Contact ISBE via Phone at 217/782-5256



Questions?