

This response was prepared for the Vermont Task Force on the Implementation of the Pupil Weighting Factors Report

Your Question:

You requested per student funding amounts for English learners (EL) in state finance systems and for a range of states with the highest and lowest per student funding.

Our Response:

English Learner (EL) funding per student is estimated for states based on their finance mechanism in Tables 1 – 4. A brief description of each table and important caveats are summarized below.

Table 1 estimates per student EL funding for states with categorical grant programs. ECS identified a range from **\$592** in Delaware to a low of **\$48** in West Virginia. Delaware combines funding for low-income students with English learning funding. The per student amount is calculated using both the 2018-2019 EL enrollment (13,164) and the 2018-2019 direct certification enrollment (43,439) for a total enrollment of 56,603.

Table 2 estimates per student EL funding for states with a flat weight. ECS identified a range from **\$7,991** in Maryland to **\$95** in Utah. Weights are expressed as a percentage or a dollar amount. The table includes states with a foundation amount in state statute or in the enacted budget. Other states without a published foundation amount are excluded.

Table 3 estimates per student EL funding for states with multiple weights. ECS identified a range from a maximum weight of **\$4,054** in North Dakota to a minimum weight of **\$105** in Michigan. Similar to Delaware, New York combines EL funding with other student groups. As a result, New York's large amount is not specific to EL spending, but is included in the table for context.

Table 4 estimates per student EL funding for states with both a flat weight and categorical grant (hybrid). ECS identified a range from **\$2,929** in Connecticut to **\$832** in Colorado.

States that use a resource-based allocation are not included. These states allocate positions to support EL students rather than a per student amount.

Table 1: Categorical Grant

State	Total Appropriation (2021-2022)	EL Enrollment* (2018-2019)	Spending Per EL Student (ECS Estimate)	Source
Delaware	\$33,500,000 (2022-2023)**	56,603**	\$592	Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 1726 (effective 2022) and DE H.B. 250
Alabama	\$14,155,334	27,702	\$511	Act 2021-342 (2021-2022 budget)
Indiana	\$27,500,000	61,523	\$300***	Ind. Code Ann. § 20-30-9-13
Idaho	\$4,820,000	19,230	\$251	ID H 356 (2021-2022 budget)
West Virginia	\$96,000	2,012	\$48	W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-9A-22 and HB 2022 (2021-2022 budget)

* EL enrollment is from the most recent enrollment data published by National Center for Education Statistics (2018-2019). Given the national trend of increasing EL enrollment, the estimated per EL student spending likely overestimates actual per EL student spending for 2021-2022.

https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d20/tables/dt20_204.20.asp?current=yes

** Delaware's Opportunity Fund combines funding for English learners with funding for students from low-income backgrounds. The total appropriation and the enrollment columns include both EL and low-income students. In addition, the appropriated amount is for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, because it is the first year of the program.

*** Indiana caps EL spending at \$300 per pupil. See Ind. Code Ann. § 20-30-9-13.

Table 2: Flat Weight

State	Weight (2021-2022)	Foundation Amount* (2021-2022)	Spending Per EL Student (ECS Estimate)	Source
Maryland	Additional weight of 1.00	\$7,991	\$7,991	Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 5-224
District of Columbia	Additional weight of 0.49	\$11,310	\$5,542	D.C. Code Ann. § 38-2905
Oregon	Additional weight of 0.50	\$4,500	\$2,250	Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 327.013
Nevada	Additional weight of 0.24	\$6,980	\$1,675	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 387.1211 and SB458 (2021-2023 budget)
Rhode Island	Additional weight of 0.10	\$10,310	\$1,031	16 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-7.2-6
Louisiana	Additional weight of 0.22	\$4,015	\$883	La. Const. Ann. art. VIII, § 13 and SCR 2 (2021-2022 budget)
Florida	Additional weight of 0.199	\$4,319	\$860	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1011.62 and S.B. 2500 (2021-2022 budget)
New Hampshire	Additional dollar amount of \$740.87		\$741	N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 198:40-a, N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 198:40-d
Arizona	Additional weight of 0.115	\$4,391	\$505	A.R.S. § 15-901, A.R.S. § 15-943
South Carolina	Additional weight of 0.20	\$2,489	\$498	Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Funding Manual (available here)
Kentucky	Additional weight of 0.096	\$4,000	\$384	Kentucky Dept. of Education and School Funding Task Force
Arkansas	Additional dollar amount of \$359		\$359	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2305
Utah	Additional weight of 0.025	\$3,809	\$95	Utah Code Ann. § 53F-2-314

* States adjust the foundation amount with factors in addition to the pupil weight. These factors can include state and local cost-sharing or cost-of-living adjustments. These factors are not included in the estimated EL spending per student here.

Table 3: Multiple Weights

State	Weight (2021-2022)	Foundation Amount* (2021-2022)	Spending Per EL Student (ECS Estimate)	Source
New York	Additional weights from 1.00 to 2.00**	\$6,835	\$6,835 - \$12,770**	N.Y. Educ. Law § 3602 and New York State Education Department State Aid Handbook (2021-2022)
North Dakota	Additional weights from 0.07 to 0.40	\$10,136	\$710-\$4,054	N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-27-03.1
Hawaii	Additional weights from 0.065 to 0.389	\$4,491	\$292 - \$1,747	Hawaii State Department of Education
Iowa	Additional weights from 0.21 to 0.26	\$6,324	\$1,328 - \$1,644	Iowa Code Ann. § 280.4
Michigan	Additional dollar amount from \$105 to \$935		\$105 - \$935	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 388.1641
Texas	Additional weights from 0.05 to 0.15	\$6,160	\$308-\$924	Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 48.105

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** New York's extraordinary needs funding combines funding for EL students, students from low-income backgrounds, and sparsity funding for rural districts. The spending per student is not specific for EL students.

Table 4: Hybrid

State	Weight and Total Appropriation (2021-2022)	Foundation Amount* (2021-2022)	EL Enrollment (2018-2019)**	Spending Per EL Student (ECS Estimate)	Source
Connecticut	Additional weight of 0.25 and \$1,900,000 grant	\$11,525	40,200	\$2,929	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-262f, Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-17g, and S.B. 1202 (2021-2022 budget)
Colorado	Additional weight of 0.08 and \$25,300,000 grant	\$7,225	99,732	\$832	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-24-104, Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-54-104

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