



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

NEWS RELEASE

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Burmaster announces 'Keeping the Promise' aid

MADISON—Local education agencies providing services to students with severe or multiple disabilities will share \$5.4 million in combined state and federal funding under the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction *Keeping the Promise: High-Cost Education Aid* program.

Funding will go to 111 school districts, two cooperative educational service agencies (CESAs), one County Children with Disabilities Education Board (CCDEB), and one 2R charter school for services they provide for 878 special education students with severe or multiple disabilities whose educational costs exceed \$30,000 per student. Approved claims for services for high-cost special education students during the 2007-08 school year totaled \$9.9 million, far exceeding available funding. The reimbursement for claims was prorated at 57 percent.

“School districts have long identified expenses for high-cost special education students as a funding issue that challenges local budgets,” said State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster. “This aid provides some relief to support districts as they provide required services for their students.”

The \$5.4 million *Keeping the Promise: High-Cost Special Education Aid* for 2009 is a mix of \$3.5 million in state and \$1.9 million in federal funding. State funding for this program was among a small number of appropriations that were not cut to fix budget issues because of maintenance of effort requirements in the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Burmaster established the *Keeping the Promise: High-Cost Special Education Aid* program in 2003, using discretionary funding from the state’s federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

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allocation. She requested state support for the *Keeping the Promise* initiative in her 2005-07 budget, which the governor and Legislature approved. State funding was first available in 2007.

Eligible costs under the *Keeping the Promise* program include all costs (except administration or leadership) for direct services for a student with high-cost special education needs in the 2007-08 school year. Reimbursement from IDEA flow-through funds, Medicaid, and state special education categorical aid is deducted first. After those deductions, *Keeping the Promise: High-Cost Special Education Aid* is calculated at 90 percent of the amount by which the total cost of providing education and related services to an individual child exceeded \$30,000.

“By law, every child is entitled to a free appropriate public education,” Burmaster said. “*Keeping the Promise: High Cost Special Education Aid* is part of my legacy to help local school districts ensure that all students, including those with severe or multiple disabilities, receive a quality education.”

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NOTES: A list of payments to local education agencies receiving *Keeping the Promise: High-Cost Special Education Aid* is attached. Additional information is available on the High-Cost Special Education Categorical Aid Program/*Keeping the Promise* website <http://dpi.wi.gov/sfs/highcost.html>. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2009_61pdf.

Keeping the Promise: High-Cost Special Education Aid

Payments for Costs Incurred in the 2007-08 School Year – Prorated at 57% of Approved Costs

A-E

Antigo, \$33,305
Appleton Area, \$72,471
Arcadia, \$24,931
* Arrowhead UHS, \$6,404
Ashland, \$10,547
Ashwaubenon, \$61,026
Baldwin-Woodville Area, \$2,655
Baraboo, \$2,343
Beloit, \$13,351
Brighton #1, \$14,508
Bristol #1, \$5,519
Brown Deer, \$6,341
Burlington Area, \$4,794
Cameron, \$30,709
Cedarburg, \$91,946
Central/Westosha UHS, \$27,078
* CESA 2, \$40,173
* CESA 10, \$52,728
Clinton Community, \$3,271
Cochrane-Fountain City, \$8,404
Columbus, \$1,405
Cuba City, \$25,926
D C Everest Area, \$30,627
Deerfield Community, \$1,405
* Durand, \$26,039
Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah, \$14,000
* Elmbrook, \$76,820
Evansville Community, \$78,014

F-J

Fall River, \$10,031
Florence, \$12,972
Fond du Lac, \$18,698
Fort Atkinson, \$20,226
* Franklin Public, \$99,854
Galesville-Ettrick-Trempealeau, \$11,195
Germantown, \$55,077
Glenwood City, \$10,614
Grafton, \$71,995
Green Bay Area, \$396,993
* Greenfield, \$16,699

Hamilton, \$20,362
Hartford UHS, \$64,631
Highland, \$26,844
Independence, \$5,185
* Janesville, \$42,357
Jefferson, \$41,875

K-N

Kenosha, \$136,778
Kettle Moraine, \$195,542
Kewaskum, \$20,699
Kickapoo Area, \$15,694
La Crosse, \$17,237
Lac du Flambeau #1, \$11,095
Lakeland UHS, \$25,035
Lodi, \$1,256
Luxemburg-Casco, \$52,343
* Madison Metropolitan, \$871,049
Manitowoc, \$34,286
Marshfield, \$11,004
McFarland, \$23,239
Mellen, \$8,005
Menasha, \$10,141
Menomonee Falls, \$37,090
Menomonie Area, \$16,068
Mequon-Thiensville, \$54,882
* Merton Community, \$19,240
Middleton-Cross Plains, \$195,175
Milwaukee Public, \$54,807
Minocqua J1, \$5,980
Montello, \$57,309
Necedah Area, \$11,584
New Glarus, \$13,954
North Fond du Lac, \$22,920
North Lakeland, \$2,074
Northland Pines, \$87,594

O-R

Oak Creek-Franklin, \$46,778
Oconomowoc Area, \$21,948
Oregon, \$10,958
Osceola, \$52,689
Port Washington-Saukville, \$100,183

Potosi, \$17,355
Prentice, \$18,245
Racine, \$389,869
Randall J 1, \$3,054
Richfield J 1, \$19,372
River Falls, \$6,934
Riverdale, \$4,811

S

Saint Croix Central, \$8,178
Saint Croix Falls, \$33,734
Saint Francis, \$28,638
Salem, \$16,189
School for Early Development and Achievement, Milwaukee, \$629
Sevastopol, \$28,607
Sheboygan Area, \$207,318
* Sheboygan Falls, \$18,737
Shorewood, \$7,179
* Silver Lake J1, \$19,636
Somerset, \$12,584
South Milwaukee, \$3,805
Sparta Area, \$25,230
Spring Valley, \$1,819
Sun Prairie Area, \$76,621

T-W

* Three Lakes, \$6,677
Tomah Area, \$25,164
Twin Lakes #4, \$7,322
Verona Area, \$56,470
Viroqua Area, \$15,131
* Walworth County, \$228,491
* Waukesha, \$101,038
Wausau, \$4,860
Wauwatosa, \$4,655
Wheatland J1, \$6,405
Whitefish Bay, \$41,177
* Wilmot UHS, \$26,492
Winneconne Community, \$23,642
Wisconsin Dells, \$7,674
Wittenberg-Birnamwood, \$3,415

* Denotes the fiscal agent for services provided to children from other local educational agencies.