



**COLORADO**

Department of Education

# School Finance Funding per the School Finance Act of 1994 as Amended

August 2022

# Purpose of Meeting

- To orient members of the At-Risk Measure Working Group to the school finance formula and how at-risk students are currently funded
- We won't be discussing the activities or responsibilities of the Working Group in today's meeting
  - See you on the 15th for our first Working Group meeting!



# Funded Pupil Count

## Based on October pupil count

- Enrollment, Schedule, Attendance

## Funded pupil count

- Greater of the current year's pupil count OR
- Best average of current plus prior, current plus prior two, current plus prior three or current plus prior four years (excluding extended high school and multi-district online students)
- Adds .08 to the counts for part-time kindergarten students
- Adds back in extended high school and multi-district online students

## Full-time vs. part-time students

- Full-Time = 1.0
- Part-Time = 0.5



# Per Pupil Funding before At-Risk

Base funding (*set annually by statute and must be at least the prior year base increased by the rate of inflation*)

*multiplied by* Personnel Cost Factor

*multiplied by* Cost of Living Factor

+

Base funding

*multiplied by* Non-Personnel Cost Factor

The above total is then multiplied by the Size Factor



# How At-Risk Students are Identified Currently

Students qualify for at-risk status, currently, through one of the following:

- Direct Certification List
  - SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
  - TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
  - Migrant students
- Applications for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals
  - As of FY22, both Free and Reduced-price eligible students are counted as at-risk; previously, Free only
- Family Economic Data Survey (FEDS) forms
- Categorical Eligibility determination lists (such as district-created migrant, homeless, Head Start, runaway, and/or foster child lists)

# At-Risk Funding (current formula)

- Base funding is 12% of Per Pupil
- Uses the higher of the districts free and reduced lunch counts OR the percentage of grade 1-8 FRL multiplied by the K-12 membership count
- Multiplies count by Per Pupil outlined in previous slide
- Adds a concentration factor for districts who have an average percentage of at-risk students that is higher than the statewide average
  - Districts with  $\leq 50,000$  FPC adds 30%
  - Districts with  $\geq 50,000$  FPC adds 36%
- Projected total at-risk funding for FY23: \$420M, which is 5% of total program funding

# Total Program Funding Formula

## Total Program Funding

Equals (funded pupil count  
times per pupil funding before at-risk)  
plus, at-risk funding (recently  
changed)  
plus, English language learners funding  
plus, multi-district online funding  
plus, extended high school funding

Budget Stabilization Factor is applied after total program is calculated

