

## Exceptional Children's Education – Gifted Education

Administrative units are required by law to provide a program plan to identify and serve gifted children who are at least five years of age (preschool is optional, except in the identification process for early access). Administrative units may permit early access provided the program plan includes criteria and procedures for early access provisions required by law.

State law does not prescribe the method for distributing the appropriation for gifted children. The Department of Education distributes money to administrative units on a per pupil basis, except that 22 administrative units consisting of BOCES units and small districts have a formula that provides a base allocation and factors for size, rural districts and number of districts in the BOCES. This adjustment was made in 2009 for the 22 administrative units that were formerly under a hold harmless principle whereby no increase/decrease from the 2003 distribution was recognized under hold-harmless. The adjustment will allow changes in enrollment and number of rural districts in a BOCES to influence a more equitable distribution among the 22 administrative units. A 2009 standard distributes 19% of the total allocation to the 22 administrative units and 81% of the total allocation to 35 administrative units. This percentage standard is based upon the 2008 distribution. Under the adjusted 2009 standard, all administrative units will gain in state funds as gifted education state funds increase over time. (Note: The 19/81 percent split is the "hold-harmless" factor.)

### Gifted Education Reimbursement Formula

Gifted per pupil allocation = distribution / total pupils

81% of total distribution (35 administrative units):

Administrative unit allocation equals:

Number of pupils in administrative unit x per pupil allocation

19% of total distribution (22 administrative units):

Administrative unit allocation equals:

Base amount + (factors for enrollment under 2000, percent of rural districts, and number of districts

+ number of pupils in administrative unit x per pupil allocation

## Example for an administrative unit in the hold harmless category

### Factors for an administrative unit in the hold harmless category

Number of pupils in the AU = October enrollment count

Base amount = \$10,000

Under 2000 enrollment = \$3,500

100% rural = \$4,000

Factor for number of districts = (Number of districts – 1) x \$2,000

Per pupil allocation = \$11.68 (2014)

### Administrative Unit example in the hold harmless category

#### AU Description

Enrollment - 1980 students

18 districts: 6 rural and 12 non-rural = 33% rural

Formula: Base + enrollment + rural factor + # of districts factor + per pupil factor = Total allocation

\$10,000 + \$3,500 + (33% of \$4,000 = \$1,320) + ((18-1)x\$2,000 = \$34,000) + (1980 students x \$11.68/student) = \$23,126

Total = \$71,946