



Memo

To: District Business Officials, Pupil Count Coordinators, and District ASCENT Program Staff
From: Misti Ruthven, Office of Postsecondary Readiness
Mary Lynn Christel, Office of School Finance
Date: May 19, 2016
Re: Carry Forward ASCENT slots from Budget Year 2015/2016

Your district is receiving this memo because it has been identified as having carry forward ASCENT slots that must be used during the 2016/2017 budget year. Failure to do so will result in the district having to return funds for the unused carry forward ASCENT slots.

In May of each school year, districts may request to be included in the allocation of ASCENT slots for the upcoming budget year. Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-35-108(3)(b) and (c), districts will receive funding for all allocated ASCENT slots, regardless of whether or not the district utilized all allocated slots during the corresponding budget year. However, any unused ASCENT slots for a given budget year must be used in the following budget year. Failure to do so will result in the district having to return funds for the unused carry forward ASCENT slot.

Beginning with the 2016 Student October Count data submission, there will be a new Postsecondary Code (PS Code = 9) which must be used to identify any student who is utilizing a carry forward ASCENT slot from the prior budget year. Districts with carry forward ASCENT slots will be required to allocate any carry forward ASCENT slots (PS Code = 9) prior to using any newly allocated ASCENT slots (PS Code = 1) for the 2016/2017 budget year. The School Finance Unit will rely on a combination of funding codes and PS codes reported by the district in the 2016 Student October Count data submission to determine whether (1) all carry forward ASCENT slots from the 2015/2016 budget year were used, and (2) if the district will have any carry forward ASCENT slots going into the 2017/2018 budget year.

Once the 2016 Student October Count data is finalized, the School Finance Unit will determine whether your district will be required to refund monies received from ASCENT slots from the 2015/2016 budget year. Notice will be sent out from School Finance Unit in January 2017 with instructions on repayment for these slots.

If you have any questions, please contact the following individuals:

- Allocation of, and carry forward, ASCENT slots:
 - Misti Ruthven (Ruthven_m@cde.state.co.us; 303-866-6206)
- Repayment of carry forward ASCENT slots:
 - Mary Lynn Christel (christel_m@cde.state.co.us; 303-866-6818)
- Reporting students in the 2016 Student October Count data submission:
 - Morgan Holmgren (holmgren_m@cde.state.co.us; 303-866-6961)