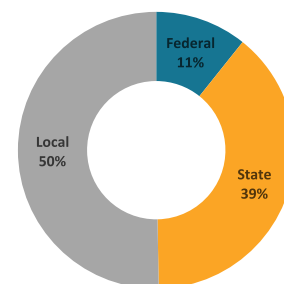


TEXAS

| | |
|--|---|
| AUTHORIZER TYPE(S) | State Education Agency Local Education Agency |
| LEGAL STATUS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS | Local Education Agency Part of a Local Education Agency |
| LINKAGE TO A TRADITIONAL DISTRICT | Partial Link (LEA Authorizer) No Link (SEA Authorizer) |
| STATE SPECIAL ED FUNDING FORMULA | Weighted Funding—Funding allocated per student; amount increases based on student need. |
| % OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES | 8.71% (all public schools) 7.14% (charter schools) |

TEXAS Revenue Sources, FY 2014



| FY 2014 | Spending Per Pupil |
|---------|--------------------|
| TEXAS | \$8,593 |
| US | \$11,009 |

*Sources on last page; click [here](#) for definitions

Charter School Funding

Same for Independent LEA and Part of an LEA

Public schools and charter schools are funded via a two tier system in Texas.

In Texas, charters may be authorized through either the local school board or the State Commissioner of Education. There are two types of charter schools recognized – open enrollment and district-authorized. Open enrollment charter schools serve as their own LEAs, with no link to any other LEA. District-authorized charter schools are members of the district LEA, and have a partial link relationship with the district.

The state-funded Foundation School Program is the primary source of funding for all public schools. A weighted formula is used to calculate funding:

- Weighted adjustments are applied to average daily attendance (ADA) to calculate a weighted Average Daily Attendance (WADA). Weights include special education (12 weights), compensatory education, career and technology education, bilingual/ESL education, and gifted programs.
- A funding allotment known as a Tier I amount is paid based on a multiplication of the Weighted Average Daily Attendance (WADA) by a state-wide average adjusted allotment.

For the 2014-15 school year, the statewide average adjusted Tier I allotment was \$6,268. For 2015-16 the estimated allotment was \$6,461.

- Charter schools do not receive local funding. However, they receive an entitlement in Tier II of the Foundation School Program based on state average district tax rates, and may receive additional funding if they provide transportation to students, or health insurance to employees.

In 2014-15, charter schools received Tier II entitlements of \$1,807,214,318.

In 2014-15, the average per pupil funding amount was \$9,680 for both ISDs and charter schools, with \$827 per pupil budgeted for special education across all Texas public schools.

State Special Education Funding

| Independent Local Education Agency | Part of a Local Education Agency |
|--|--|
| <p>Funding is based on the amount of time that students with disabilities are served in their instructional setting, as outlined in the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook. Students assigned to mainstream settings also generate special education funding. Federal and state special education funds flow to open enrollment schools directly. Because funding is calculated based on average daily attendance as opposed to average daily membership, schools with low attendance receive less funding.</p> <p>The twelve weights in the formula are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homebound: 5.0 • Hospital class: 3.0 • Speech therapy: 5.0 • Resource room: 3.0 • Self-contained, mild and moderate, regular campus: 3.0 • Self-contained, severe, regular campus: 3.0 • Off home campus: 2.7 • Nonpublic day school: 1.7 • Vocational adjustment class: 2.3 • State schools: 2.8 • Residential care and treatment: 4.0 • Mainstream: 1.1 | <p>Funding is based on the amount of time that students with disabilities are served in their instructional setting, as outlined in the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook. Students assigned to mainstream settings also generate special education funding. For district-authorized charters, the funds flow first to the LEA, and are then distributed to the charter. Because funding is calculated based on average daily attendance as opposed to average daily membership, schools with low attendance receive less funding.</p> <p>The twelve weights in the formula are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homebound: 5.0 • Hospital class: 3.0 • Speech therapy: 5.0 • Resource room: 3.0 • Self-contained, mild and moderate, regular campus: 3.0 • Self-contained, severe, regular campus: 3.0 • Off home campus: 2.7 • Nonpublic day school: 1.7 • Vocational adjustment class: 2.3 • State schools: 2.8 • Residential care and treatment: 4.0 • Mainstream: 1.1 |

Local Special Education Funding/Services

| Independent Local Education Agency | Part of a Local Education Agency |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <p>Open enrollment charters may cooperate or contract with the local school district or other service providers to meet their obligation to provide special education services.</p> | <p>Full district discretion</p> |

Federal IDEA Part B Funding

| Independent Local Education Agency | Part of a Local Education Agency |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <p>Each LEA is awarded the base payment amount it would have received for fiscal year 1999 if the Texas Education Agency (TEA) had distributed 75% of its grant for that year, then 85% of any remaining funds to LEAs on the basis of the relative numbers of children enrolled in schools with the LEA jurisdiction, and 15% of remaining funds to LEAs in accordance with numbers of children living in poverty as determined by TEA.</p> | <p>Same as for independent LEA</p> |

Special Education High-Cost Funds

High Cost Risk Pool

The Texas Legislature requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to set aside the maximum amount of funds allowed by federal regulation to establish a high cost risk pool to address the needs of children with high-cost, low-incidence disabilities. The funds are not used to establish, support, or administer the program but remain under the control of the state until disbursed to an LEA to support a specific high-needs child. The pool is in place for students whose education costs more than three times the average per pupil expenditure in the state. If the amount of funds requested exceeds the available funds reserved, the reimbursement is prorated

For district-authorized charters, the LEA may apply for any categorical state or federal aid intended to offset the cost of educating students with high-cost, low-incidence disabilities. Open enrollment charters may also apply for both federal and state funding for students with high-cost, low-incidence disabilities.

Medicaid

School Health and Related Services (SHARS)

Medicaid services are provided by school districts in Texas to Medicaid-eligible students within the School Health and Related Services (SHARS) program. The oversight of SHARS is a cooperative effort between the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). SHARS allow local school districts, including public charter schools, to obtain Medicaid reimbursement for certain health-related services documented in a student's IEP.

References / Resources

Reference sites

Texas Education Agency, Special Education

http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/Programs_and_Services/Special_Education_Funding/Special_Education_Funding/

Funding links

[Charter School Funding, Texas Education Agency](http://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/State_Funding/Charter_School_Funding/Charter_School_Finance/)

http://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/State_Funding/Charter_School_Funding/Charter_School_Finance/ See background information on CS funding

[Budgeted Financial Data, all districts, Texas Education Agency](http://tea.texas.gov/Budget/Budgeted_Financial_Data)

[https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/cgi/sas/broker?](https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/cgi/sas/broker?_service=marykay&program=sfadhoc.budget_report_2015.sas&service=appserv&debug=0&who_box=&who_list=STATE)

[_service=marykay&program=sfadhoc.budget_report_2015.sas&service=appserv&debug=0&who_box=&who_list=STATE](https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/cgi/sas/broker?_service=marykay&program=sfadhoc.budget_report_2015.sas&service=appserv&debug=0&who_box=&who_list=STATE)

Distribution of IDEA Part B Formula Funds to LEAs, The Legal Framework for the Child-Centered Special Education Framework

<https://framework.esc18.net/display/Webforms/ESC18-FW-Summary.aspx?FID=175>

High-cost links

Texas High Cost Funds State Plan, Texas Education Agency

<http://tea.texas.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=25769822198>

Medicaid links

School Health and Related Services, Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/rad/acute-care/shars/>

Departments/Organizations

Texas Education Agency, State Funding

Sources for data on first page of report

Percentage of students with disabilities: U.S. Department of Education, Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) for the 2013-14 school year. Available at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/crdc-2013-14.html>

Federal, state, and local revenue sources & spending per pupil: United [States](https://www.census.gov) Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances.

Available at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/school-finances.html>