

State Reimbursement Available for Fire Protection at Schools

State funding for fire protection in school districts is determined by the Legislature in the biennial operating budget. Formula allocations are based on student enrollments and other characteristics of each school district and are paid on a predefined allocation schedule.

Eligible school districts under the formula receive state funds as part of the July apportionment to reimburse fire districts for the costs of fire protection services. The state payment is \$1.161845 per pupil for 2016-17 (<http://www.k12.wa.us/SAFS/Misc/ApportionmentNotes.asp>), based on the headcount as reported in the October 2016 School Enrollment Report.

Fire district payments received but not expended by school districts for this purpose are recovered by the state. Fire district payments, while part of the basic education allocation, are not part of the basic education entitlement.

You may track future apportionments or sign up for alerts on the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) website at <http://www.k12.wa.us/SAFS/default.asp>.

WAC 392-121-460. Fire district allocation.

In addition to those moneys distributed for basic education purposes, school districts are entitled per RCW 52.30.020 to be reimbursed for moneys expended for the purchase of fire protection services from fire protection districts. Only school district's school plants located in a fire protection district established pursuant to Title 52 RCW shall be eligible for such moneys.

Payment to districts shall be made each July as a part of the monthly apportionment allocation.

The headcount enrollment used to compute each district's reimbursement will be as of October 1 of the school year for which the allocation is being made. The count shall be entered on forms provided to school districts by the superintendent of public instruction.

Any moneys allocated to school districts for the purpose stated in this rule and not used for this purpose shall be recovered by the superintendent of public instruction from a district's monthly apportionment allocation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.150.290 and 28A.710.220. WSR 15-18-078, § 392-121-460, filed 8/28/15, effective 9/28/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.41.055 and 28A.41.170. WSR 88-03-013 (Order 88-8), § 392-121-460, filed 1/11/88.]

RCW 52.30.020. Property of public agency included within district—Contracts for services.

Wherever a fire protection district has been organized which includes within its area or is adjacent to, buildings and equipment, except those leased to a nontax exempt person or organization, owned by the legislative or administrative authority of a state agency or institution or a municipal corporation, the agency or institution or municipal corporation involved shall contract with such district for fire protection services necessary for the protection and safety of personnel and property pursuant to the provisions of chapter 39.34 RCW: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any state agency, institution, or municipal corporation contract for services which are performed by the staff and equipment of such state agency, institution, or municipal corporation: PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in this section shall apply to state agencies or institutions or municipal corporations which are receiving fire protection services by contract from another municipality, city, town, or other entities: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That school districts shall receive fire protection services from the fire protection districts in which they are located without the necessity of executing a contract for such fire protection services: PROVIDED FURTHER, That prior to September 1, 1974, the superintendent of public instruction, the chief of the Washington state patrol through the director of fire protection, the director of financial management, and the executive director of the Washington fire commissioners association, or their designees, shall develop criteria to be used by the chief of the Washington state patrol through the director of fire protection in establishing uniform rates governing payments to fire districts by school districts for fire protection services. On or before September 1, 1974, the chief of the Washington state patrol through the director of fire protection shall establish such rates to be payable by school districts on or before January 1st of each year commencing January 1, 1975, payable July 1, 1975: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That beginning with the 1975-77 biennium and in each biennium thereafter the superintendent of public instruction shall present in the budget submittal to the governor an amount sufficient to reimburse affected school districts for the moneys necessary to pay the costs of the uniform rates established by the chief of the Washington state patrol through the director of fire protection.

[2006 c 25 § 12; 1979 c 151 § 164; 1974 ex.s. c 88 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 64 § 1; 1941 c 139 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 5654-143a. Formerly RCW 52.36.020.]