

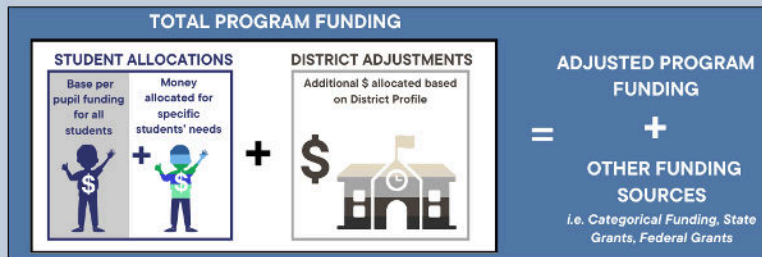
Recommendations & Impact at a Glance



Per Senate Bill 23-287, the Public School Finance Task Force responsibility is to examine and make recommendations concerning making the school finance formula simpler, less regressive, and more adequate, understandable, transparent, equitable and student-centered.

Proposed Funding Model

The proposed funding model calculates **Student Need-Based Allocations** first before applying the **District Adjustments**, which are based on the specific district profile.



WHAT ARE STUDENTS' NEED-BASED ALLOCATIONS?

	BASE	AT-RISK	SPED	ELL	ONLINE & EXTENDED H.S. FUNDING
HOW ARE STUDENTS' NEED-BASED ALLOCATIONS CHANGING?		Increase At-Risk weight to at least 0.31 and remove cap (0.3) on total possible At-Risk weight.	Recommend to include additional Tier A and B student weights in the formula. Tier A student weight would be at least 0.5. Tier B students would be at least 0.85	Increase ELL weight to at least .5 on total possible ELL weight. Starting in FY25 there will be no eligibility cap for students	No change

Additional Student Need-Based Recommendations

- ★ Recommend the legislature utilize categorical funding to address **students with complex or higher special needs**, sometimes referred to as **Tier C**
- ★ Recommend the legislature utilize categorical funding to address **Gifted and Talented Students** with a weight of at least .25 to Gifted and Talented Students

* Recommendations to be applied within Other Funding Sources: i.e. Categorical Funding, State Grants, Federal Grants



WHAT ARE DISTRICT ADJUSTMENTS?



- ★ Recommend establishing a **minimum cap** of 0.1 to the cost of living factor.
- ★ Recommend **rebasing the cost of living factor** utilizing 2021 as a base. Rebasement of the cost of living factor should occur at minimum every 2 years while accounting for the historical average of districts.
- ★ Recommend utilizing the current size factor calculation, but remove the size factor benefit for districts educating 1,027 students or more and incorporating a remoteness weight having districts receive weights **based on their NCES classification**: Rural: Remote = 0.25, Rural: Distant = 0.2, Rural: Fringe = 0.15, Town: Remote = 0.1, Town: Distant = 0.05, Town: Fringe = 0.025

Additional Recommendations

The Public School Finance Task Force made these recommendations with the understanding of their combined effects on schools and the legislature should avoid taking recommendations in isolation.

- ★ Recommend that the legislature **increase the base funding levels** for student education in Colorado.
- ★ Recommend the legislature should **annually revisit and update the base and need weights**. Updates should reflect the results of the adequacy studies when they have been published.
- ★ Recommend the legislature explore **establishing additional or alternative factors**, including a potential Colorado based "cost of doing business" factor, that account for the additional costs of districts to hire and retain staff and the increased costs of basic business needs. Additional or alternative factors should be revisited and updated periodically as a result of adequacy studies.
- ★ Recommend the General Assembly continues to **fully fund** the existing MILL Levy Equalization Fund (as established in CRS 22-30.5-513.1.)
- ★ Recommend that the legislature continues to address **MILL Levy Override Equalization** for all students in Colorado.
- ★ The Task Force made these recommendations with the understanding of their combined effects on schools and the legislature should avoid taking recommendations in isolation.
- ★ Recommend phasing in changes to the new formula for no longer than a **4 year time period** utilizing hold harmless.