OCS Guidance for Charter Schools

House Bill 1043 / SL 2020-4 Ratified 5/4/2020
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Please note: Public School Unit (PSU) is a bucket term that includes charter schools, lab schools, and district schools. Local School Administrative Unit specifically applies to districts and NOT to charter schools.

Grants Available to Charter Schools

- Public school units participating in the National School Lunch Program or school breakfast program as of March 16, 2020 shall be reimbursed for nutrition services provided through the end of the 2019-2020 school year as if they were reimbursed by school meal receipts or federal funds. (Section 3.3 (6))
- Charter schools that purchase electronic devices for use by students and school personnel in response to COVID-19 shall be reimbursed by the Department of Public Instruction. (Section 3.3 (9&10)). Funds will be reimbursed based on guidelines set by the Financial Business Services division.
- Schools that provide additional contracted mental health services up until December 30th 2020 as a response to COVID-19 are to be reimbursed for those expenses. (Section 3.3 (12)) Funds will be allocated in a manner consistent with the formula for Instructional Support Allotment.

Reimbursable summer learning program

- Final Remediation and Summer Jump Start Guidance has been issued by DPI. Charter schools that serve grades K-4 do need to submit their summer learning plan to DPI by June 22nd. (Section 3.3 (13))
- Eligibility of applicable students:
  2019-20 K,1, 2, 3rd grade students who were not on track to meet 2019-2020 year end reading expectations based on diagnostic assessments prior to March 16th 2020.
  2019-20 4th grade students who were not on track to meet 2019-20 year end reading expectations as identified by their 19-20 reading teachers.
  2019-20 K,1, 2 ,3, 4th grade students who were not on track to meet 2019-20 year end math expectations as identified by their 19-20 math teachers.

Allocated supplemental reading instruction provided in the 2020-2021 school year prior to December 30, 2020

- Eligibility of applicable students:
2019-20 2nd and 3rd grade students who are not on track to meet 2020-21 year end reading expectations as identified by their 2020-21 reading teachers.

- Any remaining funds from this specific allocation shall be used for reading intervention for 2019-20 K, 1st, and 4th grade students and for math intervention for 2019-20 K,1,2,3, and 4th grade students.

**Joint Reconciliation Changes to original bill (Subdivision (13))**

- Adds that DPI can provide necessary feedback on summer learning programs.
- Requires each public school unit to begin its summer learning program consistent with its plan submitted to DPI and not delay the start of its summer learning program pending feedback from DPI.
- Specifies that summer learning programs are not to be included in 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 instructional calendar.
- Clarifies that parents or guardians have the final decision regarding qualified student attendance at summer learning programs.

**Joint Reconciliation Changes to original bill (Subdivision (16))**

- Amends previous section IVC.3(13), allocating $15 million, rather than $17.9 million, to DPI for Extended School Services and future services for qualified exceptional children.
- Specifies that DPI must hold the allocation in reserve and award grants, at DPI's discretion, to provide public school units that apply for funds to support extraordinary costs associated with providing such services.

Please anonymously rate the clarity of this guidance document for QCS purposes.