



Weighted Student Formula

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST: The Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) is requesting \$13,215,000 in additional funds for the Weighted Student Formula (WSF) to support two high-needs student groups: (1) \$10 million for English Learners (EL) and (2) \$3,215,000 for homeless students. Both requests are per the recommendations of the Committee on Weights X and XI (view report). HIDOE serves nearly 180,000 students.

BOARD PRIORITY	REF #	REQUEST SUMMARY	AMOUNT	TYPE
Equity & Access	6270	ENGLISH LEARNERS: The proposed increase is based on new weights for the three EL categories: (1) Fully English Proficient (FEP), \$147.25; (2) Limited English Proficient (LEP), \$442; (3) Non-English Proficient (NEP), \$884.	\$10,000,000	Amended
	6271	HOMELESS STUDENTS: The proposed increase is based on the creation of a new WSF weight of 0.20 for homeless students, resulting in \$892 each. As of this publication date, HIDOE is serving 3,604 homeless students.	\$3,215,000	Amended

About WSF

The formula equitably distributes operating budget funds to schools based upon the number of students they serve and the needs and characteristics of those students.

The WSF starts with base funding for all HIDOE schools. Then, a baseline amount is set for each student at a weight of 1.0, with additional funding ("weights") aligned with different student needs and characteristics represented by decimal increments. (Special Education needs are supported through a different funding category.)

Estimates of WSF distributions are made throughout the year to incorporate the latest numbers for enrollment and allocations to help principals plan.

Weights are debated and set by the Committee on Weights (COW), comprised of educators, administrators and community members. The Board of Education approves the recommendations from COW.

Student Baseline Funding, FY21*

Weighted Characteristic	Weight As-Is	Value As-Is	Weight Change	
			Weight + \$13.2M	Value + \$13.2M
Economic Disadvantage	0.100	\$449.09	0.100	\$449.08
English Learner (FEP)	0.065	\$291.01	0.096	\$428.87
English Learner (LEP)	0.194	\$873.04	0.287	\$1,286.62
English Learner (NEP)	0.389	\$1,746.07	0.573	\$2,573.24
K-2 (smaller class size)	0.150	\$673.64	0.150	\$673.62
Middle School	0.033	\$150.00	0.033	\$150.00
Gifted & Talented	0.265	\$1,190.10	0.265	\$1,190.07
Neighbor Island	0.008	\$35.93	0.008	\$35.93
Transiency	0.050	\$224.55	0.050	\$224.54
Homeless	--	--	0.200	\$898.16

1 student = 1.0 weight = \$4,490.93

A transient middle school student.



	Weight	Value
Base	1.000	\$4,490.93
Transiency	0.050	\$224.55
Middle School	0.033	\$150.00
TOTAL	1.133	\$4,865.48

A homeless student on Maui.



	Weight	Value
Base	1.000	\$4,490.93
Neighbor Island	0.008	\$35.93
Econ. Disadv.	0.100	\$449.08
Homeless	0.200	\$898.16
TOTAL	1.208	\$5,874.10

School Baseline Funding, FY21

Elementary Schools	Elementary Multitrack	Middle Schools	Middle Multitrack	High Schools	K-12 Schools	K-8 Schools	6-12 Schools
\$307,000	\$402,000	\$461,000	\$556,000	\$472,000	\$750,000	\$525,000	\$537,000

*based on FY21 preliminary appropriation including budget request items and projected enrollment as of publication date.