Process for High Cost Fund Grant Entitlement Calculation

The following revisions to the High Cost Fund (HCF) process were made in the 2016-2017 school year:

1.1 Remove the adjusted allotment (AA) from consideration related to the eligibility application. The AA will not be subtracted from documented expenses. This will allow more students to qualify as high-need students with disabilities. The state average per-pupil expenditure (APPE) will be subtracted from the award amount.

1.2 Remove anticipated State Health and Related Services (SHARS) reimbursements from consideration related to the eligibility application. SHARS amounts will not be subtracted from documented expenses. This will allow more students to qualify as high-need students with disabilities. SHARS expenditures will be subtracted from the award amount.

1.3 Add an excess transportation costs calculator. (This is now included as part of the online application.)

1.4 Remove unused and unallowable cost categories. The removal of historically unused cost categories will simplify the eligibility application. The category of "other expenses" will still be available for costs that are not easy to document using available cost categories in the eligibility application.

1.5 Limit reimbursements for residential set-aside spending to a portion of the set-aside amount. If the 25% set-aside exceeds three times the APPE, then a portion of those costs will be eligible for reimbursement.

1.6 Limit reimbursements for non-public day school (NPDS) expenses to a portion of the allowable expenses. If NPDS expenses exceed three times the APPE, then a portion of those costs will be eligible for reimbursement.

In addition to the 2016-2017 process revisions, based on stakeholder and survey input, the 2017-18 HCF process will include:

1.7 Awards will be prorated with a weighted formula based on least restrictive environment (LRE) placement. In-district high-need students will carry the highest weight, followed by NP Day, then NP Residential students.

1.8 Add an excess transportation cost calculator for in-district transportation cost associated with a high-need child. (Included as part of the online application.)

1.9 Add the prorated teacher or services cost calculation tool to the online application.