



Executive Summary on 2021-22 Final State Budget

August 6, 2021

The Legislature and the Governor reached agreement on a final state budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year through a series of legislative actions in late June. The primary Budget Bill is Assembly Bill 128 which was subsequently amended by Senate Bill 129 which contains additional budget actions and amendments to AB 128. Finally, Assembly Bill (AB) 130, the Education Trailer Bill to the 2021-22 budget was signed by the governor on July 9, 2021. Many experts consider this is the most complex state budget in decades.

In this final budget, significant changes have been made to the “May Revise” budget proposed by the Governor two months ago. I’ve summarized below the key changes as compared with the Governor’s May Revise budget. The funding details for many programs are not available yet, but I provided below a rough estimate of the fiscal impact on MWA’s budget whenever possible. We shall be able to provide a more accurate estimate when we present the 1st interim budget to the board.

- **Concentration Grant Increase:** The budget increases the LCFF concentration grant percentage from 50 percent to 65 percent of the base grant, providing about \$1.1 billion in additional LCFF funding statewide. This change is estimated to increase MWA’s LCFF funding by about \$200K. However, additional requirements are added to LCAP to address the usage of the concentration funds.
- **Special Education:** The budget contains a number of enhancements to special education funding, including:
 - A COLA of 4.05 percent to the special education formula.
 - \$396 million in new ongoing Proposition 98 funding, for an increase to the per-ADA statewide base rate to \$715.
 - \$450 million in one-time funding to SELPAs for learning recovery supports associated with impacts of school disruptions from the pandemic. Funds will be allocated on a per pupil basis based on pupils with exceptional needs. Distribution of funds will be at the discretion of each SELPA.
 - \$100 million in one-time funding to SELPAs to increase support to their members for dispute prevention and voluntary alternative dispute resolution activities.

We are yet to receive the funding details for MWA from our Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) and will provide an update once more information is available.

Significant New and Expanded Programs. The budget contains a number of new programs or significant changes to existing programs that may include new mandates as well as additional funding for charter schools. Some of the more significant of these programs are described here.

- **Expanded Learning Opportunities Program:** This program will be available starting in 2021-22 to all classroom-based LEAs serving kindergarten through grade six to expand afterschool and summer school enrichment programing for high-need (LCFF unduplicated) students. \$1 billion ongoing funds and \$753.1 million in one-time funds will be provided in 2021-22, growing to \$5 billion in ongoing funding at full implementation for classroom-based LEAs, based on the average daily attendance (ADA) count of low-income, English learner and foster youth students in grades TK-6.

As a condition of apportionment of these funds in 2021-22, an eligible LEA shall offer all unduplicated pupils in kindergarten through grade 6, and provide to at least 50% of those pupils, access to expanded learning opportunity programs. Beginning in 2022-23 all LEAs shall offer all pupils in K through grade six access to expanded learning opportunities programs and provide them to all pupils who request their placement in a program. The program combined with the educational day shall offer nine-hours of combined service time on regular instructional days, plus 30 days of non-school day opportunities during intersessional periods of no less than 9 hours per day.

The estimated funding for MWA is \$306,049 under this new program.

- **A Through G Completion Grants:** The budget provides \$547.5 million in new one-time funding in 2021-22 to LEAs to provide additional supports to improve A-G course completion rates, as follows:
 - \$300 million is for “A-G Access Grants” which allocates an equal amount per pupil in grades 9- 12 to LEAs with A- G completion rate of less than 67%.
 - \$100 million is for “A-G Success Grants” which allocates an equal amount per pupil in grades 9- 12 to LEAs with A-G completion rates of 67% or higher.
 - \$147.5 million is for “A-G Learning Loss Mitigation Grants” Which allocates an equal amount per LCFF unduplicated pupil in grade 9 through 12. These funds shall be used to allow pupils who received a grade of D, F, or fail in an A-G course in Spring 2020, or 2020-21 to retake those courses, or offer other credit recovery opportunities.

An eligible LEA that received an LCFF concentration grant in 2020-21 shall receive a minimum A-G Access or Success Grant, and A-G Learning Loss Grant of \$75,000. Grant recipients shall complete a plan, as specified, by January 1, 2022 describing how funds will increase or improve A-G eligibility for unduplicated pupils. These funds are available for use through 2025-26.

MWA is estimated to receive \$356,820 for this grant.

- **Other School and Teacher Improvement Programs:** There are a number of other new and expanded funding opportunities to support students and teachers, such as Community School Partnership Grant, Career Technical Education Incentive Grant, Educator Effectiveness Block Grant and Teacher Residency Grant. The eligibility criteria, funding details and the competitiveness for those grants are yet to be determined, except for the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant, which will be non-competitive allocation of funds and all charter schools with staff in 2020-21 are included.