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Bureau of Special Education Support FY'23 Memo #34

Date: June 28, 2023

To: Superintendents of
Schools Administrators of
Special Education

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education
Division of Learner Support
Bureau of Special Education Support

Re: Eligibility for Court Ordered Payment(s) (COP) – School Year 2023 –2024 (July 1, 2023
to June 30, 2024)

The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED), Bureau of Special Education Support (Bureau), is offering guidance to districts applying for court ordered payment(s) for 2023-2024. The Estimated Cost per Pupil Tuition for Fiscal Year 2024 has been established at \$19,034.08. Use the figure of \$57,102.24 for 3 times the estimated cost per pupil.

All invoices for the 2023-2024 review year must be submitted to the Bureau of Special Education Support by **August 15, 2024** for review and payment. Invoices submitted after this date will not be processed.

GENERAL INFORMATION

To qualify for court ordered payment(s):

1. The student must have a court order(s) covering the school year and placing them at a residential school, foster care, or group home.
2. Students must have been placed in special education programs for their disability that have been approved for special education by the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED).
3. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) must have financial responsibility for the residential cost of the student.
4. The student must not be attending a public school.
5. School districts must enter in the New Hampshire Special Education Information System (NHSEIS) student evaluation and placement data. The data must follow the requirements of the New Hampshire Standards for the Education of Students with Disabilities (effective March 24, 2017).

6. The cost to the district for implementing the student's Individualized Education Program during the 2023-2024 school year must exceed 3 times the estimated State average cost per pupil. The student may have been placed in more than one (1) program during this period, in which case costs are cumulative. This includes approved Special Education Extended School Year (July 1, 2023, to August 31, 2023).
7. For any student eligible for court ordered payment(s), the district obligation of 3 times estimated State average cost per pupil will be paid only once, even if that student transferred to one or more school district(s) during the school year.

Please refer to the Court Ordered Placement Manual for further instructions and clarifying information <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/cop-manual-updated-06-23-2021.pdf>

Questions regarding the court ordered placement payment process may be addressed by contacting Cathy Krammes at (603) 271-6056 or Cathleen.M.Krammes@doe.nh.gov.