

# **Impact Aid Director's Quarterly Update**

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**Hello everyone!** I will publish this quarterly newsletter to provide relevant and timely program updates. I hope you find this resource useful, and if there is something you would like quarterly updates on, please let me know.

### **Program Updates**



On November 9, 2023 (the earliest date in the history of Impact Aid!), we distributed final Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 payments under Section 7003. The last rates for FY 2023 are 100% proration with a 4% ratable increase to each Local Educational Agency's (LEA)

Learning Opportunity Threshold (LOT) percentage for basic support and \$1,197.60 per weighted student unit for children with disabilities. We paid all "remaining funds" payments to eligible FY 2023 Section 7002 applicants on November 17, 2023, so FY 2023 is officially closed. We have also released FY 2024 initial 7003 payments for LEAs who have requested an early payment based on funds we have received through the first Continuing Resolution (CR) that ran through November 17, 2023.

The Impact Aid Program is now completely out of money to distribute for all years. The current CR funds the Department of Education through February 2, 2024, and we anticipate receiving an additional allotment within the next few weeks. We will continue distributing as many initial payments as possible with the additional funds. You may view your payment vouchers in the Impact Aid Grant System (IAGS). Contact your program analyst if you need assistance retrieving your payment voucher.

#### **New Team Members**





We are pleased to introduce our newest team members, Carolina Ronson and Brian Bannen. Before joining us, Carolina served as an elementary teacher and a resource specialist. Her passion for education and belief in equitable access to quality learning inspired her to join ED. Carolina is eager

to leverage her experience to make a significant and enduring impact on education nationwide. Brian has been in education for 20 years, first as a high school English teacher, and then as an elementary school administrator. Brian chose to join ED for a systems-level opportunity in education. Additionally, Brian brings ten years of military experience as he currently serves as a Marine Science Technician in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. Brian is excited about this opportunity and looks forward to contributing to the education field in this new capacity. Join us in welcoming Carolina and Brian to the Impact Aid team!

# FY 2025 Application Season



Start taking steps now to prepare for the FY 2025 application season. If you have not done so, please register with <u>login.gov</u> to ensure you can access the IAGS. You cannot access the IAGS without verifying your identity through login.gov. If

you need instructions, they can be found here.

We will publish the FY 2025 applications on November 27, 2023, so ensure you have the latest survey tools by reviewing our <u>resources page</u>. This year, we are excited to introduce a new IAGS home page with cosmetic improvements that increase the visibility of your current tasks and messages and provide quick links to important information, such as your payment history page. Finally, I'm looking forward to a successful grant year, and my staff and I are here to provide any support you may need.

#### **FY23 Discretionary Construction**



The Construction Grant Team is happy to announce that we have awarded three successful grantees at the close of our FY 2023 competition. Our new awardees reported that kids, staff, parents, and the community were excited about the

funds and the opportunities to mitigate the health and safety concerns in the district. The three awards are summarized below.

- All Tribes American Indian Charter School received a \$3,968,129 grant award to replace the deteriorated fifty-year-old portable buildings on the campus in rural California.
- Dahlonegah Public Schools received an \$8,561,340 grant to construct a new Pre-K through 8th-grade facility in rural Oklahoma.
- Chief Tahgee Elementary Academy, Inc. received a \$4,500,000 grant to add a new wing to the Pre-K through 7th-grade facility and replace outdated temporary portables in rural Idaho.

We received 13 grant applications with funding requests that totaled over \$50M, but unfortunately, our appropriation was just \$18.6M. You can find information about the Discretionary Construction program, including eligibility criteria, at <a href="https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/">https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/</a>.

# **Preliminary FY 2024 Data Trends for 7003 Payments**



Many of you have expressed concern over a decrease in student counts on your FY 2024 application and how that will affect your payment. The FY 2024 application was based on the student count from School Year 2022-2023 and

was the first year since the pandemic that school districts could not use the Fall 2019 child counts. About 70% of applicants experienced a decrease in federally connected Weighted Student Units (WSU) compared to FY 2023. The Local Contribution Rate (LCR) and Total Current Expenditures (TCE) expenditure information is from the School Year 2020-2021. It shows increases of approximately 7% on average for almost all applications due to pandemic spending.

For the FY 2024 application, student counts are having a larger effect on the Maximum Payment calculations, with 63% of applications showing a Maximum Payment decrease of 6% on average compared to FY 2023.

We are closely monitoring the proration we can pay for interim and final payments. Typically, we make interim payments prorated at 90%, but we may be able to provide a higher percentage based on these trends once Congress provides final appropriated funds for FY 2024.

# **Funding Updates**

#### **Annual Appropriations**

	2022	2023	2024
Basic Support	\$1,409,242,000	\$1,468,242,000	\$-
Federal Property	\$77,313,000	\$78,313,000	\$-
Children with Disabilities	\$48,316,000	\$48,316,000	\$-
Construction	\$17,406,000	\$18,406,000	\$-

#### Status of Open Years

	FY 2024	
Fund Type	Amount Distributed*	Number of LEAs
7003(b) – Basic Support	\$200 million	846
7003(d) – Children with Disabilities	\$4.9 million	526
7002 – Federal Property	\$2.9 million	35

<sup>\*</sup> Based on CR Funding

As we approach the upcoming holiday season, we wish you and your family a very Happy Holiday!

As always, reach out to us anytime for assistance, and feel free to contact your program analyst directly here: <a href="https://impactaid.ed.gov/iap\_staff/">https://impactaid.ed.gov/iap\_staff/</a>.

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