

# FY25 Section 31a Reminders & Updates

86<sup>th</sup> MSBO Annual Conference  
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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# **Section 31a Session Objectives**

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Legislative Updates & Reporting  
Requirements

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Intent & Purpose and Assurances

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Allowable Use of Funds

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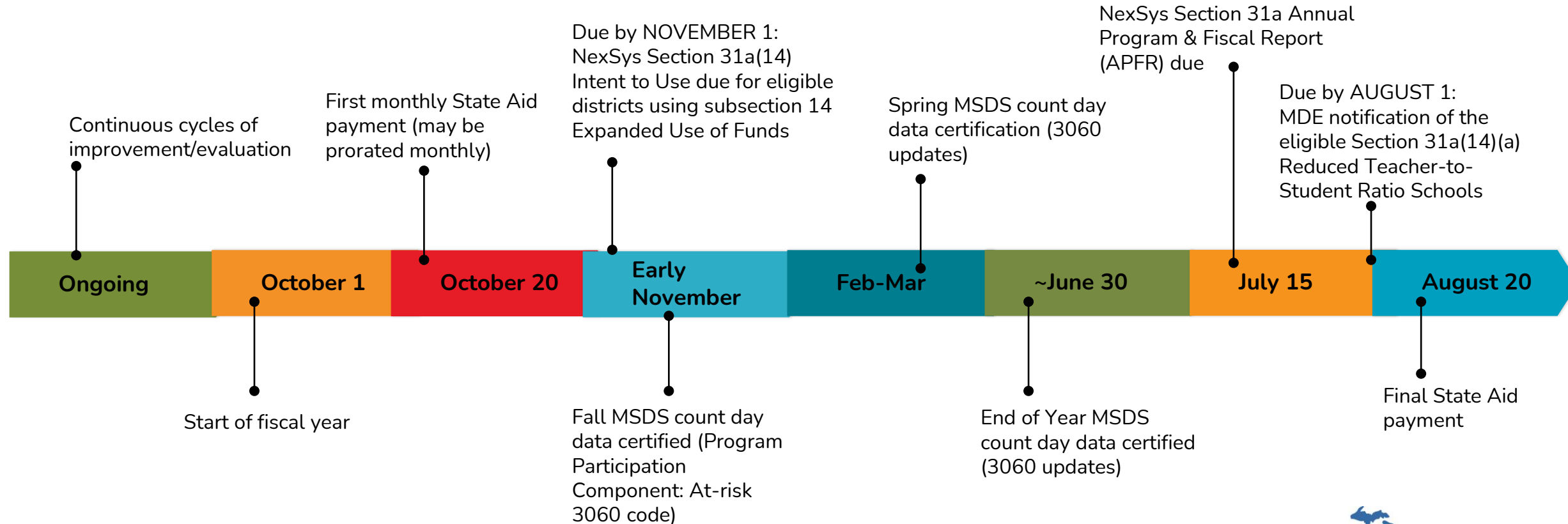
Allocation Formula

# FY25 (2024-2025) LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

- Standard Section 31a grant increased by 8.7% from FY24 (up to \$1,034,952,000)
- Year 2 of new allocation formula system based on the district's Opportunity Index Score
  - 6 Opportunity Index Score Bands
  - Districts are assigned to an **Opportunity Index Band** based on their percentage of the student population that is Economically Disadvantaged (rounded up) used in the allocation formula
    - For most districts, this is the Fall from the previous school year
  - Allocation percentage rate defined by Opportunity Index Band
    - Is prorated for FY25 with limitations defined in law that no districts may receive less than the 11.5% percentage factor in the allocation formula
- New Expanded Use of Funds subsections 14-17 for eligible districts
  - Subsection(14)(a) Teacher to Student ratio reduction for grades K-3
  - Subsection (14)(b) Recruitment & retention to prevent turnover and eliminate vacancies

# Section 31a Annual Timeline

## (State Fiscal Year: October 1- September 30)



# Section 31a

## Annual Program & Fiscal Report (APFR)

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- Submit by July 15<sup>th</sup>
- Business Officials together with Program Leaders
- Key components include:
  - Funded Programming
  - Students Served
  - MTSS Questions
- Modifications can be made to prior reports (email Point of Contact to request)

# Section 31a Focus

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## Intent & Purpose

- ELA Proficiency by Grade 3
- Math Proficiency by Grade 8
- Career and College Readiness by Graduation
- Regular Attendance

Section 31a(1)

## Assurances

- Read by Grade 3 Law
- Early Literacy & Numeracy
- K-12 MTSS with Fidelity
- School Breakfast Program Supplement
- Complete Section 31a Annual Program & Fiscal Report annually by July 15

Section 31a(2)(6)(9)

"At-risk pupil" means a pupil in grades pre-K to 12 for whom the district has documentation that the pupil meets any of the following criteria:

- **economically disadvantaged (ED)\***
- **English learner\***
- chronically absent
- victim of child abuse or neglect
- pregnant teenager or teenage parent
- has a family history of school failure, incarceration, or substance abuse
- **an immigrant who has immigrated within the immediately preceding 3 years\***
- did not complete HS in 4 years and is still continuing in school
- did not achieve proficiency on State summative assessments
- at risk of not meeting the LEA's local objectives in ELA or math as demonstrated on local assessments

## **Section 31a Eligibility Criteria (Subsection 25)**

*\* data from existing fields in MSDS is leveraged for reporting*

# Economically Disadvantaged (ED) vs. At-risk Eligible

## Economically Disadvantaged

- used for Section 31a allocation formulas
- district written procedures focus on accurate & timely reporting of ED for pupil accounting
- one of the 10 criteria for identification as At-risk eligible
- determines eligibility for a district to use Section 31a funding for school security & school parent liaisons

## At-risk Eligible

- 10 legislatively defined criteria that identify students as eligible to receive grant funded supports
  - reported 3 times a year in MSDS general collections (fall, spring, end of year)
  - determines school building eligibility to use Section 31a funding for schoolwide reform
- district written procedures are required
- to ensure accurate & timely reporting at least in the three general collections
  - should include on-going reviews for student At-risk eligibility updates in the local student information system
- aligns strongly to student and programming needs
    - What supports & services the district will fund?
    - Which students will get Section 31a funded services?

# Section 31a(5) General Use of Funds

**Instructional programs**

**Direct non-instructional services**  
(i.e., medical, mental health, or counseling services)

**School health clinics**  
(i.e., school nurse)

**School parent liaisons and/or school security**

***Funds may not be used for administrative costs***

# Other Allowable Uses of Section 31a

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**Schoolwide Reform  
(Subsection 11)**

**Professional  
Development &  
Implementing  
Coaching Model  
(Subsection 12)**

**Support Staff providing  
services to At-risk  
eligible pupils  
(Subsection 13)**

**Pre-kindergarten  
(10% cap)  
(Subsection 18)**

**Anti-Bullying & Crisis  
Intervention Programs  
(Subsection 21)**

**Pathways to Potential  
Programming  
(Subsection 22)**

# 2024-2025 Section 31a Expanded Use of Funds (for Eligible Districts)

## Section 31(14)(a): Teacher to Student Ratio in grade K-3

- Schools within Districts assigned to OI Bands 5 or 6 to that have an ED% greater than the minimum % for OI Band 5
- May use up to 30% of funds
- Purpose: Reduce grades K-3 Teacher to Student ratios

## Section 31(14)(b): Recruitment & Retention

- Districts assigned to Opportunity Index Bands 5 or 6 in FY25
- May use up to 30% of funds
- Purpose: Retention and recruitment to reduce instructional and support staff turnover & vacancies

# **Section 31a Expanded Use of Funds Provisions:**

## **Requirements for Implementation**

- **Subsection 15: Expanded Use of Funds must:**
  - Align to the needs assessment and MTSS model.
  - Not include administrative costs.
  - Not supplant existing funding including maintaining salaries or costs.
  - Districts using Subsection 14 provisions will report to MDE no later than November 1 intent to use Section 31a(14) provision(s).
- **Subsection 16: Three Fiscal Years**
  - May use Section 31a(14) expanded use of funds for 3 fiscal years including initial eligible year plus 2 fiscal years.
- **Subsection 17: MDE Report/Notification**
  - Annually on August 1 of each fiscal year, the MDE must provide a report of Eligible Subsection 14(a) Teacher to Student Ratio Schools for the upcoming fiscal year.

# Unallowable Section 31a At-risk Grant Costs

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- Administrative Costs
- Teacher of Record\*
- Foundational Components of Alt Ed Program

*\*There may be exceptions for eligible districts using Section 31(14)(a).*

# Section 31a Legislation At-risk Programming Allocation Subsections

**Subsection 3(a-d):** Defines membership counts used in allocation formula

- **Traditional Allocation:** Previous Fall ED Count
- **Alternative Count for 1<sup>st</sup> Year CEP buildings:** 1-year alternative Section 31a formula for Year 2 of CEP
- **New district or PSA (opened prior to Fall Count Day):** Use current year Fall Count Day
- **New district or PSA (opened after Fall Count Day):** Use current year Spring Count Day
- **Alternative Count Option for districts with egregious reporting error (>20 percentage points) in Fall Data:** The MDE may use the Spring Count Data instead of Fall to correct reporting errors.

**Subsection 4:** Opportunity Index (OI) scores district assignment and allocation formula

**Subsection 19:** Proration

**Subsection 20:** Dissolving districts

# Section 31a At-risk Programming Statewide Allocation Increases

Fiscal Year	At-risk Programming Statewide Allocation	Percent Increase
FY17	\$378,988,200	--
FY18	\$499,000,000	+32.0%
FY19	\$499,000,000	0.0
FY20	\$510,000,000	+2.2%
FY21	\$510,000,000	0.0
FY22	\$512,500,000	+0.5%
FY23	\$747,500,000	+46.0%
FY24	\$952,000,000	+27.0%
FY25	\$1,034,924,000	+8.7%

# Section 31a(4) Opportunity Index (OI) Bands

BAND	OI SCORE MINIMUM	OI SCORE MAXIMUM	AT-RISK OI WEIGHT (MULTIPLIER)
1	0	19	35.00%-35.99%
2	20	43	36.00%-37.49%
3	44	58	37.50%-38.99%
4	59	72	39.00%-41.99%
5	73	84	42.00%-46.99%
6	85	100	47.00%

# Section 31a Opportunity Index Allocation Formula Sample (2023-20024)

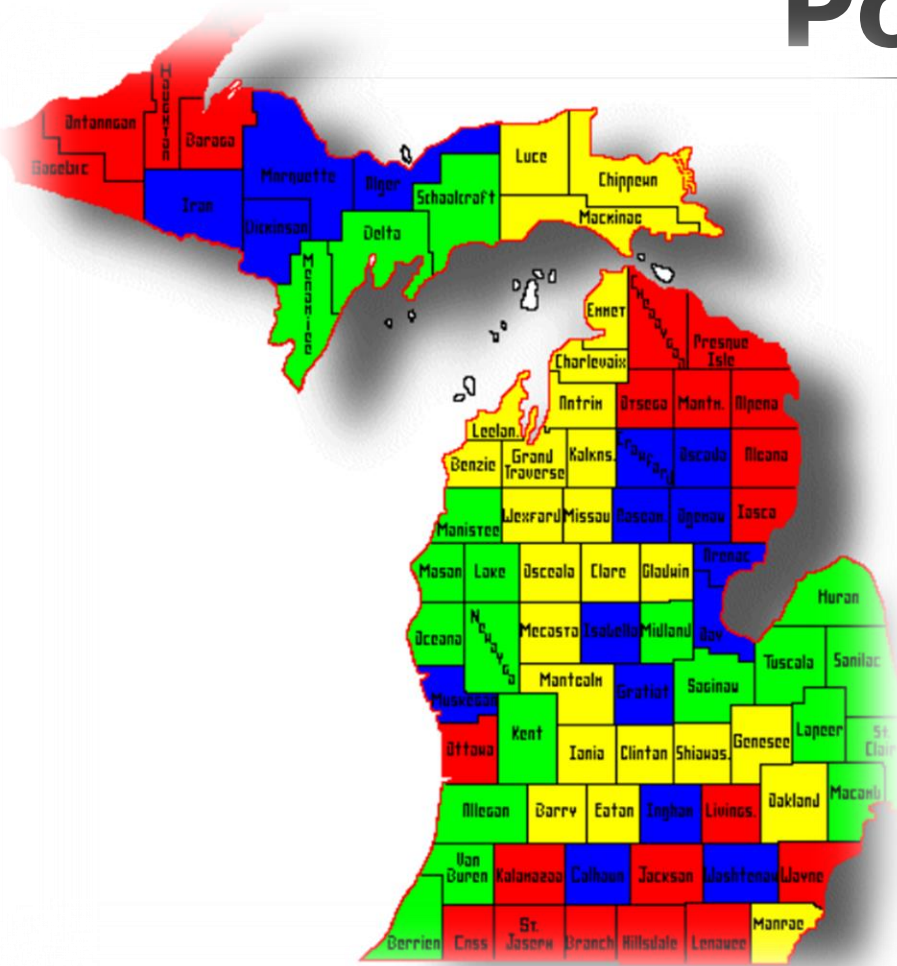
Band	District	Opportunity Index (OI) Score (Section 31a Economically Disadvantage Count/Total Pupil Count)	ED Student Count	OI Percent (New Multiplier)	Eligible Amount	Prorated Effective Weight	Final Prorated Allocation Amount
1	District A	8	222	35.3684%	\$ 754,399.48	11.5500%	\$ 246,358.35
1	District B	15	1,337	35.7368%	\$ 4,590,712.16	11.6703%	\$ 1,499,153.04
2	District C	21	424	36.0625%	\$ 1,469,111.24	11.7766%	\$ 479,756.19
2	District D	44	503	37.5000%	\$ 1,812,309.00	12.2461%	\$ 591,831.61
3	District E	46	268	37.7000%	\$ 970,753.89	12.3114%	\$ 317,011.52
3	District F	58	123	38.9000%	\$ 459,713.98	12.7033%	\$ 150,125.21
4	District G	59	570	39.0000%	\$ 2,135,858.40	12.7359%	\$ 697,490.61
4	District H	72	879	41.7857%	\$ 3,528,982.88	13.6456%	\$ 1,152,432.40
5	District I	73	73	42.0000%	\$ 294,581.28	13.7200%	\$ 96,229.88
5	District J	84	1,834	46.5833%	\$ 8,208,476.83	15.2123%	\$ 2,680,578.22
6	District K	85	1,857	47.0000%	\$ 8,385,766.32	15.3484%	\$ 2,738,474.26
6	District L	105	63	47.0000%	\$ 284,492.88	15.3484%	\$ 92,904.62

Target Foundation Allowance = \$9,608

Section 31a Proration Rate = 32.6562%



# Regionalization of Services Point of Contact



**Dawn  
Carmody**



**Suzanne  
Grambush**



**Stephanie  
Holmes-  
Webster**



**Joan  
(Jackson)  
Cabrales**



# Section 31a Team Contact Information

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## **Office of Educational Supports**

Special Populations Unit, Phone Number: (517) 241.6977

Section 31a General Mailbox, [MDE-Section31a@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Section31a@michigan.gov)

## **Manager, Special Populations Unit**

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