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MEMORANDUM NO. 2018-102

TO: School District Superintendents
Business Managers
Special Education Directors

FROM: Dianne Bailey, Chief Operations Officer

DATE: September 17, 2018

SUBJECT: Special Education Funding

CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

[Chapter 137](#) of the 2018 Wyoming Session Laws modifies [W.S. 21-13-321](#), which provides funding for special education within the education resource block grant model pursuant to [W.S. 21-13-309\(m\)\(v\)\(E\)\(II\)](#).

Prior to this change, school districts were reimbursed an amount equal to 100 percent of its allowable special education expenditures from the preceding year. In accordance with Section 1 of this session law, amounts provided to school districts in school year (SY) 2019-20 and 2020-21 will be limited to the statewide total amount reimbursed in SY 2018-19. Additionally, Section 6 appropriates \$2 million to the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) to go toward out-of-district placements above the statewide cap for special education students during SY 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Amounts reported on the 2017-18 WDE401-Reimbursable Special Education Expenditures and reimbursed to school districts in SY 2018-19 will be used to determine the statewide total amount. Districts should consider using the amount received during SY 2018-19 as an estimate for funding during SY 2019-20 and 2020-21.

The WDE and the School Finance Data Advisory Committee have determined a way to allocate special education funding for SY 2019-20 and 2020-21. Guidance documents are being created regarding the calculation methodology in administering the statewide total amount. Rules regarding the distribution of the \$2 million appropriation will be promulgated in the coming months.

For more information, contact Trystin Green at trystin.green@wyo.gov or 307-777-6206.