

# *Transition Recovery Services Funding for Students with Disabilities who are 21*

## *Questions & Answers*

### **Q1. What guidance is available to support schools and districts in providing transition recovery services to eligible students?**

A1. If a student's IEP team determines and documents that a student needs transition recovery services, these services must be provided as part of FAPE. Once these services are determined to be needed then the next question is how to provide transition recovery services and what funding is available to support the delivery of those services (Q2-Q10). The intent of transition recovery services is to make up services from the time of the pre-COVID IEP that were missed during the COVID time period, not to create new opportunities or add new pathways.

Transition recovery services are additional transition services for students with IEPs and are intended to:

- Address lack of reasonable progress on IEP goals or the IEP Transition Plan.
- Address missed or limited special education or related services.
- Support students to achieve expected levels of progress towards their post-secondary goals (as indicated in the IEP Transition Plan and High School and Beyond Plan).

The type, amount, and timing of transition recovery services should be an individualized decision made by the IEP team based on student data. Transition recovery service decisions are not to be based on staffing or funding availability. Not all students will require a full additional year of transition services.

To support the implementation of transition recovery services, the state legislature provided funding for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years for students who are age 21 at the beginning of the school year and meet the funding eligibility criteria outlined in Q2.

Districts are encouraged to work with families and students to individually determine transition recovery service needs. These funds are available for use for any transition-related needs, including special education and related services; transition services including education and training, employment, and independent living skills; and placement.

The guidance on the topic of transition recovery services is listed below:

- [Washington's Roadmap for Special Education Recovery Services: 2021 & Beyond](#)  
OSPI developed this document to support IEP teams with determining recovery services needed for students with disabilities due to the impact of COVID-19.



- Webinar for Schools and District Partners: Secondary Transition Services | [Recording](#) | [Presentation slides](#) *Posted 5/20/21*
- Family Information Session: Secondary Transition Services | [Recording](#) | [Presentation slides](#) *Posted 6/3/21*
- [Questions and Answers: Provision of Services to Students with Disabilities during COVID-19 in the 2020-21 School Year](#)
  - Section B addresses recovery services.
  - Section B-3 specifically addresses transition recovery services.

## Q2. Who is eligible to be claimed for transition recovery services funding?

A2. An eligible student is one that meets the following requirements<sup>1</sup>:

- Was eligible for special education services at the time they aged out and is age 21 at the start of the school year. This means the student no longer qualifies to be claimed by a district on the monthly P223 or P223H;
- Has not graduated with a regular diploma; and
- Requires and is receiving transition recovery services as determined by the student's IEP team.

## Q3. How will the transition recovery services funding for students with disabilities who are 21 be operationalized?

A3. The funding allocated for transition recovery services for students who are 21 years old are fixed amounts in the biennial budget. OSPI has capped the amount of funds each district is eligible to receive. Districts will claim funds by reporting monthly enrollment count through the OSPI Smartsheet tool located [HERE](#) (see Q3) until cap is reached.

## Q4. How will enrollment be reported for funding?

A4. Transition recovery services funding for students who are 21 years old will be reported monthly as a headcount based on the first school day of the month. Beginning with July 2021 and until August 2023, districts will submit a headcount for students who were enrolled in the district on the first day of the month and have met the requirements to be an eligible student (see Q2), and has received transition recovery services in the prior month. Districts will report their count through the OSPI Smartsheet tool located [HERE](#). Each monthly count is due to OSPI

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<sup>1</sup> See page 399-400 of the [Legislative Proviso](#)

by the 15<sup>th</sup> calendar day. Funding will be allocated in that month's apportionment. Districts must retain documentation to support their transition recovery services count.

## **Q5. How will the monthly allocation be calculated?**

A6. The transition recovery services funding will be allocated based on a 10-month average of the 12 months reported. For each student headcount reported, a 0.10 annual average headcount (AAHC) [1 | 10] is calculated.

Allocation will be based on each district's special education BEA rates. The district will receive 0.10% of this rate for every student claimed that month in their monthly apportionment.

## **Q6. Is there a limit to how many months an eligible student can be claimed?**

A7. No. An eligible student can be claimed for 12 months of the school year and is not limited to 1.0 AAHC or 10 months. Students receiving transition recovery services for 12 months would be a 1.20 AAHC [12 | 10].

Reminder, a student's IEP team makes an individualized decision regarding transition recovery services and thus a student may not need a full year or may need more than a year of recovery services. See Q1.

## **Q7. What revenue code in the apportionment payment and accounting process will be assigned to these funds?**

A8. Revenue code 4121-03 for state funds and code 6123-03 for federal funds.

## **Q8. How much funding is available for this purpose?**

A9. The state budget provided \$5 million in state funds and \$7 million in federal funds in state fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022). There is an additional \$12 million of state funds available in state fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023).