

Categorical Aid: Transportation Reimbursement

House Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation

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Outline of Talk

- What is categorical aid?
 - Overview
- Transportation reimbursement
 - Overview
- Available categorical funding
- Questions



What is Categorical Aid?

Funding “off the top” of the Education Fund



Categorical Aid

- Funding that school districts receive directly from the Education Fund
 - Included in a district's offsetting revenues
- Usually for a specific purpose
 - Examples: Special Education, Transportation, Career and Technical Education, etc.
- The basis for aid varies. Can be based on:
 - total student population of an SU/SD
 - total population of a specific student group
 - expenditures for a specific purpose



Transportation Reimbursement

Categorical aid for providing transportation



Transportation Reimbursement

- Transportation reimbursement is categorical aid that a school district can receive to offset allowable transportation expenses
- A district's grant is equal to up to 50% of eligible transportation expenditures from two years prior
 - Eligible expenditures include transport for students to and from school
 - Does *not* include expenditures to transport students off school grounds for curricular or cocurricular activities
- Reimbursements are limited by total available categorical aid
 - Total transportation reimbursement aid is set in statute (16 V.S.A. § 4016(a))
- There are additional types of categorical aid for transportation aside from 16 V.S.A. § 4016(a)



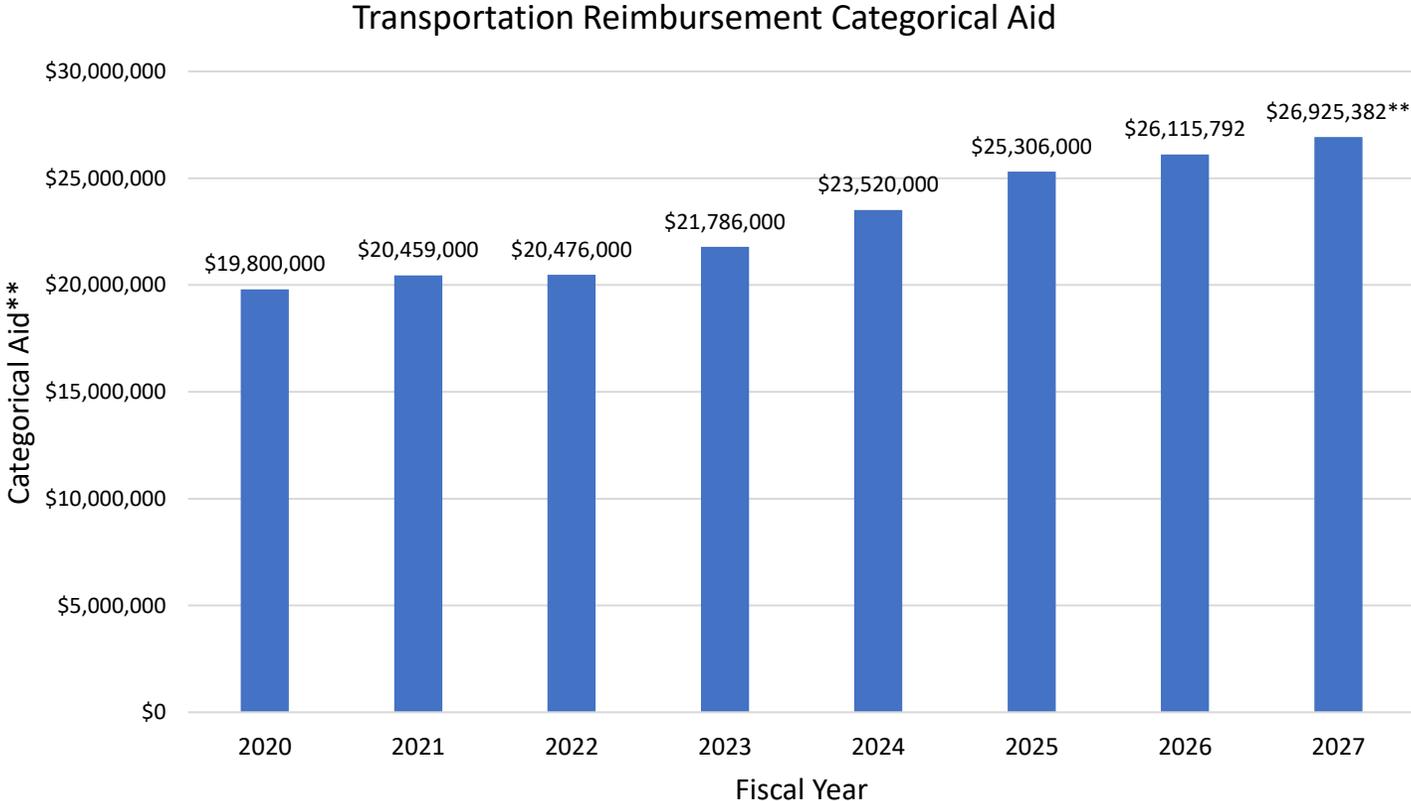
Available Funding for Transportation Reimbursement

Annual categorical aid available for transportation over time



Categorical Aid for Transportation Reimbursement

- Total categorical aid for transportation reimbursement is set in statute and adjusted annually for inflation
- In the fiscal year 2027 budget as introduced (H.951), \$26.9 million is available as categorical aid
- Includes funding for both transportation reimbursement and extraordinary transportation expenditures*



*16 V.S.A. § 4016(b)

**assumes H.951 As Introduced's appropriation for transportation assistance

Questions?

