

State-level Funding Considerations for a Foundation Amount

House Committee on Ways and Means
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JFO

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Determination of the Foundation Amount

- Multiple factors and policy decisions impact the foundation amount
 - **The base amount** determines the fixed-dollar amount per student, regardless of circumstances or characteristics
 - **The student count** determines the manner for calculating the numbers of pupils regardless of circumstances or characteristics
 - **The pupil weights** determine adjustments to the base amount and/or student count based on student or district circumstances or characteristics
- The following slide outlines some of the significant questions when determining a foundation amount.



Significant Questions for Calculating a Foundation Amount

Base Amount

- What is the base amount?
- What is included in the base amount? What isn't?
- Does it change over time?

Student Count

- How are students counted?
 - Is Long-term Average Daily Membership (LTADM) used? Or something else?

Weights

- What are the weighting categories?
- What are the weights?
- Do weighting categories and/or weights change over time?



Note: This is not an exhaustive list of questions.

Questions?

