

Foundation Formula Scenario C Applied to Current Districts

Senate Committee on Education

Julia Richter, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Joint Fiscal Office

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Remember...

- The fiscal year 2025 Education Payment is \$1.88 billion
- Long-Term Weighted Average Daily Membership (LTWADM) is the weighted student count that drives funding to a district in a foundation formula
- The modeling presented today uses various weights to generate a funding amount under Current Law districts
- Pupil weight abbreviations presented here:
 - FPL: Federal Poverty Level – Students experiencing economic disadvantage
 - EL: English Learner students



Overview of Modeling



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Underlying Assumptions

- The modeling uses fiscal year 2025 data and current law districts
- Models were built to hold the total education payment at the fiscal year 2025 level
 - In fiscal year 2025, the education payment was \$1.88 billion
- Weights direct a certain proportion of the designated base, not a target dollar amount
 - All weights are additive



Modeled Scenarios

- Scenarios apply different bases and weights that could be included in a foundation formula, while maintaining an overall cost of \$1.88 billion
- Scenario C:
 - APA's Enhanced EB weights* set to current Education Payment *except for* FPL (which is kept at 1.02), and *eliminated* the CTE and 101-249 enrollment small school weight, applied to current law districts
 - (Grades 6-8 receive 0.02, grades 9-12 receive 0.10)
 - Small school weight is maintained for schools with fewer than 100 pupils in a district with sparsity <55

**Note: To reflect policy decisions, the analysis does not include Special Education weights.*



Scenario B-2.2

H.454 Weights, Constrained to Current Education Payment with Added Pupil Grade Weights and Eliminated Sparsity, Applied to Current Law Districts

- Retains everything from Scenario B-2.1
- Eliminates the sparsity weight

Base + Weight Categories	H.454 Weights, Constrained to Current Education Payment with Added Pupil Grade Weights and <u>Elimination of Sparsity</u> , Applied to <i>Current Law Districts</i>
Base	\$14,698
FPL	1.02
EL	1.39
Grades 6-8	0.08
Grades 9-12	0.12
Small school, <100	0.21
Small school, 101-250	0.00
Sparsity, <36 people per sq	0.00
Sparsity, 36 to <55 people per sq mile	0.00
Sparsity, 55 to <100 people per sq mile	0.00
Total LTWADM Generated	127,951
Total Funding Generated	<u>\$1,880,616,509</u>



Scenario APA's "Enhanced EB Model"

Utilizes Revised Weights, an Expansion of Small School Weight, and the Addition of a CTE Weight

- Maintains the elimination of the sparsity weight
- Assumes other policy changes beyond what is included in H.454
- Introduces a variable small school weight for schools with enrollments between 101-249

Table 1: Summary of Enhanced EB Base and Weights

Base	\$14,683
Weights	
Economically Disadvantaged	0.75
English Learners (EL)	1.40
College and Career Readiness, Grades 6-8	0.02
College and Career Readiness, Grades- 9-12	0.10
CTE Centers	1.00
School Size	
Less than 100 students	0.21
100-249 students	Gradually decrease weight from 0.21 to 0.0 using this formula: $(-0.0021 * enrollment) + 0.4158$
250 students and above	No size adjustment

Note: the memo from AOE that corresponds with this table and regarding the model can be found at the following link:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2026/Workgroups/Senate%20Education/Bills/H.454/Witness%20Documents/H.454~Zoie%20Saunders~Enhanced%20Evidence%20Based%20Model~5-1-2025.pdf>



Scenario C

APA Weights (with changes for FPL, CTE, and small schools), Set to Current Education Payment, Applied to Current Law Districts

- Maintains APA's weights from the "Enhanced EB Model" with the following changes:
 - FPL is maintained at B-2.2's 1.02 weight
 - There is no CTE weight
 - The small school weighting *construct* is maintained from B-2.2
- Applies the weights to current law districts, resulting in a new base

Base + Weight Categories	APA Weights (with adjustments to FPL, CTE, and small schools), Set to Current Education Payment, Applied to Current Law Districts
Base	\$14,870
FPL	1.02
EL	1.40
Grades 6-8	0.02
Grades 9-12	0.10
Small school, <100	0.21
Small school, 101-250	0.00
Sparsity, <36 people per sq mile	0.00
Sparsity, 36 to <55 people per sq mile	0.00
Sparsity, 55 to <100 people per sq mile	0.00
CTE	0.00
Total LTWADM Generated	126,433
Total Funding Generated	\$188,056,693



Considerations



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Considerations

- These estimates only reflect how different base and weight decisions would affect funding under the constraint of the current Education Payment
- They don't reflect any other research on appropriate funding levels
- Different district configurations would result in different estimates
- Like the analysis we performed for the House proposal, this only considers the Education Opportunity Payment
- It does not include supplemental district spending or categorical aid
 - Supplemental district spending would likely have impacts on the Education Fund and property tax rates



Questions?



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Appendix



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Scenario B-2

H.454 Weights, Constrained to Current Education Payment with Added Pupil Grade Weights and Restricted Sparsity Eligibility, Applied to VSBA Regions

- Retains everything from Scenario B-1
- Restricts sparsity eligibility
 - Applies the small school weight to small schools in districts with fewer than 55 people per square mile

Base + Weight Categories	H.454 Weights, Constrained to Current Education Payment with Added Pupil Grade Weights and Restricted Sparsity Eligibility, Applied to VSBA Districts
Base	\$14,653
FPL	1.02
EL	1.39
Grades 6-8	0.08
Grades 9-12	0.12
Small school, <100	0.21
Small school, 101-250	0.00
Sparsity, <36 people per sq	0.13
Sparsity, 36 to <55 people per sq mile	0.00
Sparsity, 55 to <100 people per sq mile	0.00
Total LTWADM Generated	128,352
Total Funding Generated	\$1,880,735,184



Scenario B-2.1

H.454 Weights, Constrained to Current Education Payment with Added Pupil Grade Weights and Restricted Sparsity Eligibility, Applied to Current Law Districts

- Retains everything from Scenario B-2
- Applies the weights to current law districts, resulting in a new base

Base + Weight Categories	H.454 Weights, Constrained to Current Education Payment with Added Pupil Grade Weights and Restricted Sparsity Eligibility, Applied to <u>Current Law Districts</u>
Base	\$14,561
FPL	1.02
EL	1.39
Grades 6-8	0.08
Grades 9-12	0.12
Small school, <100	0.21
Small school, 101-250	0.00
Sparsity, <36 people per sq	0.13
Sparsity, 36 to <55 people per sq mile	0.00
Sparsity, 55 to <100 people per sq mile	0.00
Total LTWADM Generated	129,154
Total Funding Generated	\$1,880,607,682

