

STATEWIDE COST ESTIMATE

\$26,674

Education Code Sections 32281, 32282, 32286, and 32288

Statutes 1997, Chapter 736; Statutes 1999, Chapter 996

Statutes 2001, Chapter 890; Statutes 2002, Chapter 506;

Statutes 2004, Chapter 895

Comprehensive School Safety Plans II, and Amendment

02-TC-33, 07-TC-11

Test Claims Filed: June 23, 2003 and June 25, 2008

Reimbursement Period for this Estimate: July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2010

Eligible Claimants: Any School District

REVISED STAFF ANALYSIS

Commission staff issued a final staff analysis on this matter recommending adoption of a statewide cost estimate of \$3,298,953. Staff revised this estimate and proposed adoption of a statewide cost estimate of \$26,674, based on the following information.

Background and Summary of the Mandate

In 2001 and 2002, the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) approved the *Comprehensive School Safety Plans I* test claim (98-TC-01, 99-TC-10), for school districts to develop and adopt a comprehensive school safety plan. The statewide cost estimate was adopted in 2004.

In 2008 and 2009, the Commission approved the *Comprehensive School Safety Plans II* test claim (02-TC-33) and a subsequent amendment to the test claim (07-TC-11) for: 1) addressing the timing for new schools to adopt their safety plans; and for all school districts to 2) add two new elements to the safety plan; 3) specify particular parties or entities that must be notified of the public meeting when school districts are adopting their safety plans; 4) develop an earthquake emergency procedure system; 5) develop a procedure to allow a public agency, including the American Red Cross, to use school buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies; and 6) include these systems and procedures in the comprehensive school safety plans.

In 2010, the Commission adopted the parameters and guidelines for *Comprehensive School Safety Plans II*, and consolidated the parameters and guidelines for *Comprehensive School Safety Plans I and II* beginning July 1, 2009.¹ Costs incurred before July 1, 2009, may be claimed under the individual parameters and guidelines for *Comprehensive School Safety Plans I* (98-TC-01, 99-TC-10), and *Comprehensive School Safety Plans II* (02-TC-33, 07-TC-11).

¹ Exhibit A.

Statewide Cost Estimate

This statewide cost estimate is for the *Comprehensive School Safety Plans II* program.

Staff initially used claiming data for fiscal years 2001-2002 through 2009-2010 to develop the statewide cost estimate. However, a claimant representative pointed out that the claims filed for 2009-2010 include over \$3 million claimed for the *Comprehensive School Safety Plans I* program. Therefore, the proposed statewide cost estimate for *Comprehensive School Safety Plans II* program is incorrect and is being revised.

The claims data submitted shows that for fiscal years 2001-2002 through 2008-2009, only 10 claims were filed for a total of \$23,710. For fiscal year 2009-2010, 480 claims were filed for a total of \$3,275,243 for costs for both *Comprehensive School Safety Plans I* and *II*.² The reimbursement claims for 2009-2010 do not clarify what costs are attributable to each program. Based on this data, staff made the following revised assumptions and used the following revised methodology to develop a statewide cost estimate for this program.

Assumptions

1. *The actual amount claimed for reimbursement may increase if late or amended claims are filed.*

Only six school districts filed reimbursement claims between 2001 and 2010. Other school districts may file late or amended claims, and therefore, the amount of reimbursement claims may exceed the statewide cost estimate. Late claims for this program may be filed until June 7, 2012.

2. *There may be several reasons that non-claiming school districts did not file for reimbursement, including but not limited to:*

- The Commission approved only a portion of this program as a mandate. Therefore, school districts may not be able to reach the \$1,000 threshold for filing reimbursement claims.
- They did not have supporting documentation to file a reimbursement claim.

3. *The total amount of reimbursement for this program may be lower than the statewide cost estimate because the SCO may reduce any reimbursement claim for this program.*

The SCO conducted a preliminary desk review of these claims and approved them for reimbursement. The SCO may conduct full field audits, and reduce any claims it deems to be excessive or unreasonable.

4. *For fiscal year 2009-2010, a similar number of claimants filed claims for the reimbursable activities approved in Comprehensive School Safety Plans II, and for similar amounts as in previous fiscal years.*

As stated previously, we are unable to differentiate the claims filed in 2009-2010 for the *Comprehensive School Safety Plans I* and *II* programs. In order to develop a cost estimate for fiscal year 2009-2010, staff averaged the number of claims filed and averaged the estimated cost of the claims filed in the eight previous fiscal years.

² Claims data reported as of September 20, 2011.

Methodology

Fiscal Years 2001-2002 through 2008-2009

The statewide cost estimate for the above-named fiscal years was developed by totaling the 10 reimbursement claims filed with the SCO for these years.

Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Staff totaled the claims filed for 2001-2002 through 2008-2009 and averaged these costs for a total of \$2,964 for 2009-2010.

The revised statewide cost estimate includes nine fiscal years for a total of \$26,674 for the *Comprehensive School Safety II* program.

Following is a breakdown of estimated total costs per fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	Number of Claims Filed with SCO	Estimated Cost
2001-2002	1	\$6,973
2002-2003	2	\$3,668
2003-2004	0	0
2004-2005	1	\$1,029
2005-2006	1	\$1,649
2006-2007	1	\$3,045
2007-2008	2	\$3,730
2008-2009	2	\$3,616
2009-2010	1*	\$2,964*
TOTAL		\$26,674

* Estimated based on previous years' filings.

Conclusion

On December 1, 2011, the Commission on State Mandates adopted a statewide cost estimate of \$26,674 for the *Comprehensive School Safety II* program.