School Accountability Report Cards

Adopted March 25, 1999

Education Code Sections 33126, 35256, 35256.1, 35258, 41409, and 41409.3
Statutes of 1997, Chapters 918 and 912
Statutes of 1994, Chapter 824
Statutes of 1993, Chapter 1031
Statutes of 1992, Chapter 759
Statutes of 1989, Chapter 1463

Mandate Summary

Eligible Claimants

Any "school district," as defined in Government Code section 17519, except for community colleges, which incurs increased costs as a result of this mandate is eligible to claim reimbursement.

Mandate Background

The Commission adopted the parameters and guidelines for this claim on August 20, 1998.

Proposition 98, an initiative measure approved by the California voters, required each school in each school district to develop and issue a school accountability report card. Proposition 98 set forth thirteen items that were to be included in the school accountability report cards.

Statutes adopted after the approval of Proposition 98 added new subjects to be included in the school accountability report card. The Commission on State Mandates determined that the requirements in these statutes impose a new program or higher level of service upon school districts, within the meaning of section 6, article XIII B of the California Constitution and Government Code section 17514. This decision was made on April 23, 1998.

The reimbursement period for the pre-1997 statutes began on July 1, 1996, and the reimbursement period for the 1997 statutes began on January 1, 1998.

Reimbursable Mandated Activities

For each eligible claimant, the direct and indirect costs of labor, supplies and services incurred for the following mandate components are reimbursable.

Component 1 - Compilation, Analysis, and Reporting of Data

Beginning July 1, 1996, the collection and updating of data, preparation of analyses, and the preparation of the new mandated provisions added to the school accountability report cards (SARCs), as specified below:

- 1. The degree to which pupils are prepared to enter the workforce;
- 2. The total number of instructional minutes offered in the school year, separately stated for each grade level, as compared to the total number of the instructional minutes per school year required by state law, separately stated for each grade level;
- 3. The total number of minimum days, as specified in Education Code sections 46112, 46113, 46117, and 46141, in the school year;

- 4. The beginning, median, and highest salary paid to teachers in the district, as reflected in the district's salary scale;
- 5. The average salary for school site principals in the district;
- 6. The salary of the district superintendent;
- 7. Based upon the state summary information provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to subdivision (b) of Education Code section 41409, the statewide average salary for the appropriate size and type of district for the following:
 - a. beginning, mid-range, and highest salary paid to teachers;
 - b. school site principals; and
 - c. district superintendents;
- 8. The statewide average of the percentage of school district expenditures allocated for the salaries of administrative personnel for the appropriate size and type of district for the most recent fiscal year, provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 41409 of the Education Code;
- 9. The percentage allocated under the district's corresponding fiscal year expenditure for the salaries of administrative personnel, as defined in Education Code sections 1200, 1300, 1700, 1800, and 2200 of the California School Accounting Manual published by the State Department of Education;
- 10. The statewide average of the percentage of school district expenditures allocated for the salaries of teachers for the appropriate size and type of district for the most recent fiscal year, provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 41409 of the Education Code; and,
- 11. The percentage of the budget that is expended for the salaries of teachers, as defined in Section 1100 of the California School Accounting Manual published by the State Department of Education.

For the period beginning January 1, 1998, the required data and analyses includes the reporting of the eleven items above plus the following district-wide and site-specific information:

- 1. Results by grade level from the assessment tool used by the school district using percentiles when available for the most recent three-year period, including the pupil achievement by grade level as measured by the statewide assessment developed by the state pursuant to chapter 5 (commencing with section 60600) and chapter 6 (commencing with section 60800) of part 33 of the Education Code;
- 2. The average verbal and math Scholastic Assessment Test scores of high school seniors to the extent such scores are provided to the school and the average percentage of seniors taking that exam for the most recent three-year period;
- 3. The one-year dropout rate listed in the California Basic Education Data System for the school site over the most recent three-year period;
- 4. The distribution of class sizes at the school site by grade level, the average class size, and the percentage of pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 3, inclusive, participating in the Class Size Reduction Program established pursuant to chapter 6.10 (commencing with

- section 52120) of part 28 of the Education Code, using California Basic Education Data System information for the most recent three-year period;
- 5. The total number of the school's credentialed teachers, the number of teachers relying upon emergency credentials, and the number of teachers working without credentials for the most recent three-year period;
- 6. Any assignment of teachers outside of their subject area of competence for the first two years of the most recent three-year period;
- 7. The annual number of schooldays dedicated to staff development for the most recent three-year period; and,
- 8. The suspension and expulsion rates for the most recent three-year period.

Component 2 - Annual posting of school accountability report cards on the Internet.

- A. School districts with district or individual school web sites are eligible to be reimbursed for the following activities in compliance with this mandate:
- 1. One-time costs to add web pages for each school to the district's or individual schools' web sites to post school accountability report card (SARC) information.
- 2. Ongoing costs to annually convert the SARC information described in Component 1 to formats capable of being posted on the district's web site or on individual school web sites.
- 3. Ongoing costs to annually post the SARC information on the district's web site or on individual school web sites.
- 4. Ongoing costs to maintain electronic media storage space on the server for the district's web site and individual school sites for posting the SARC information.
- 5. On-going costs to purchase software specifically to convert the SARC to a file format capable of being posted on the Internet.
- 6. One-time costs to purchase other software limited to a pro rata portion of newly purchased software used to prepare the SARC.
- B. School districts without web sites on January 1, 1998, are eligible to be reimbursed for the following activities in compliance with this mandate:
- 1. One-time costs to establish one web site for the district to post the SARC information described in Component 1.
- 2. One-time costs to develop and add web pages to post SARC information for each school.
- 3. Ongoing costs to convert the SARC information to formats capable of being posted on the district's web site or on individual school web sites.
- 4. Ongoing costs to annually post SARC information on the district's web site or on individual school web sites.
- 5. Ongoing costs to maintain electronic media storage space on the district's web site and individual school sites for posting the SARC information.
- 6. On-going costs to purchase software specifically to convert the SARC to a file format capable of being posted on the Internet.

7. One-time costs to purchase other software, limited to a pro rata portion of newly purchased software used to prepare the SARC.

Non-Reimbursable Costs

School districts shall not be reimbursed for establishing an Internet connection nor for maintaining Internet access and shall not be reimbursed for the establishment of web sites for individual schools.

Statewide Cost Estimate

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

Fiscal Year	Total
1996-97	\$923,927
1997-98	\$1,564,310
1998-99	\$1,592,468
1999-00	\$1,632,279
Total	\$5,712,984
Total (rounded)	\$5,713,000