

## PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES

Education Code Sections 48201 and 49079

Statutes 2000, Chapter 345 (AB 29)

*Pupil Discipline Records,  
Notification to Teachers: Pupils Subject to Suspension or Expulsion II,  
00-TC-10/00-TC-11*

Carpinteria Unified School District, Sweetwater Union High School District,  
and Grant Joint Union High School District, Co-Claimants

**FOR COSTS INCURRED FROM JANUARY 1, 2001 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2008**

### I. SUMMARY OF THE MANDATE

On April 16, 2007, the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) adopted a Statement of Decision finding that the test claim legislation imposes a reimbursable state-mandated program upon school districts within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, Government Code section 17500 et seq., and related case law. The Commission approved this test claim for the following reimbursable activities:

- For a school district<sup>1</sup> into which a pupil is transferring to request from the school district in which the pupil was last enrolled, any records the district maintains in its ordinary course of business or receives from a law enforcement agency regarding acts committed by the transferring pupil that resulted in the pupil's suspension from school or expulsion from the school district. (Ed. Code, § 48201, subd. (b)(1), as amended by Stats. 2000, ch. 345.)
- For a school district, upon receipt of a pupil's transfer record, to inform any teacher of the pupil that the pupil was suspended from school or expelled from the school district, and to inform the teacher of the act that resulted in that action. (Ed. Code, § 48201, subd. (b)(1), as amended by Stats. 2000, ch. 345.)
- For a school district to "inform the teacher of each pupil who has engaged in or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, any of the acts described ... in Section 48900.2,<sup>[2]</sup> 48900.3,<sup>[3]</sup> 48900.4,<sup>[4]</sup> and 48900.7<sup>[5]</sup> that the pupil has engaged in, or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, those acts." This information is based on any records maintained by the district in its ordinary course of business, or received from a law enforcement agency. (Ed. Code, § 49079, subd. (a), as amended by Stats. 2000,

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<sup>1</sup> These activities also apply to a county office of education that acts as a school district.

<sup>2</sup> Education Code section 48900.2 refers to sexual harassment, as specified.

<sup>3</sup> Education Code section 48900.3 refers to hate violence, as specified.

<sup>4</sup> Education Code section 48900.4 refers to harassment, threats or intimidation, as specified.

<sup>5</sup> Education Code section 48900.7 refers to terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both, as specified.

ch. 345.) According to preexisting subdivision (d) of section 49079, this information provided to the teacher regarding pupil offenses is from the previous three school years.

## **II. 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. Charter schools are not eligible claimants.

## **III. PERIOD OF REIMBURSEMENT**

Government Code section 17557, subdivision (e), states that a test claim shall be submitted on or before June 30 following a given fiscal year to establish eligibility for that fiscal year. The Sweetwater Union High School District filed the *Pupil Discipline Records* test claim on May 9, 2001, and the Carpinteria Unified School District and Grant Joint Union High School District filed the *Notification to Teachers: Pupils Subject to Suspension or Expulsion II* test claim on May 11, 2001. While these filing dates establish eligibility for fiscal year 1999-2000, the operative date of the test claim statutes, as enacted by Statutes 2000, chapter 345, is January 1, 2001. Therefore, costs incurred pursuant to Statutes 2000, chapter 345 are reimbursable on or after January 1, 2001, through June 30, 2008. Costs incurred on or after July 1, 2008, shall be filed on the consolidated parameters and guidelines for *Notification to Teachers: Pupils Subject to Suspension or Expulsion (CSM 4452)* and *Pupil Discipline Records and Notification to Teachers: Pupils Subject to Suspension or Expulsion II (00-TC-10/00-TC-11)*.

Actual costs for one fiscal year shall be included in each claim. Pursuant to Government Code section 17561, subdivision (d)(1)(A), all claims for reimbursement of initial fiscal year costs shall be submitted to the State Controller within 120 days of the issuance date for the claiming instructions.

If the total costs for a given fiscal year do not exceed \$1,000, no reimbursement shall be allowed except as otherwise allowed by Government Code section 17564.

## **IV. REIMBURSABLE ACTIVITIES**

To be eligible for mandated cost reimbursement for any fiscal year, only actual costs may be claimed. Actual costs are those costs actually incurred to implement the mandated activities. Actual costs must be traceable and supported by source documents that show the validity of such costs, when they were incurred, and their relationship to the reimbursable activities. A source document is a document created at or near the same time the actual cost was incurred for the event or activity in question. Source documents may include, but are not limited to, employee time records or time logs, sign-in sheets, invoices, and receipts.

Evidence corroborating the source documents may include, but is not limited to, worksheets, cost allocation reports (system generated), purchase orders, contracts, agendas, training packets, and declarations. Declarations must include a certification or declaration stating, "I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct," and must further comply with the requirements of Code of Civil Procedure section 2015.5. Evidence corroborating the source documents may include data relevant to the reimbursable activities otherwise in compliance with local, state, and federal government requirements. However, corroborating documents cannot be substituted for source documents.

The claimant is only allowed to claim and be reimbursed for increased costs for reimbursable activities identified below. Increased cost is limited to the cost of an activity that the claimant is required to incur as a result of the mandate.

For each eligible school district, the following activities are reimbursable:

A. Notification to Teachers of Pupils Whose Actions are Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion (Ed. Code, § 49079, as amended by Stats. 2000, ch. 345 (AB 29))

1. Identify pupils who have engaged in or are reasonably suspected to have engaged in any of the acts described in Education Code sections 48900.2 (sexual harassment), 48900.3 (hate violence), 48900.4 (harassment, threats, or intimidation), and 48900.7 (terroristic threats against school officials or school property) during the previous three school years from records maintained by the district in its ordinary course of business or received from a law enforcement agency, and identify the pupils' teachers.
2. Inform teachers on a regular and timely basis of each pupil who has engaged in or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in any of the acts listed below during the previous three school years from records maintained by the district in its ordinary course of business or received from a law enforcement agency:
  - a. Sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code section 48900.2.
  - b. Hate violence, as defined in Education Code section 48900.3.
  - c. Harassment, threats, or intimidation, as defined in Education Code section 48900.4.
  - d. Terroristic threats against school officials or school property, or both, as defined in Education Code section 48900.7.

The information provided to teachers pursuant to Education Code section 49079 shall be made in a manner designed to maintain confidentiality of this information.

*Maintaining separate records or information about pupils engaged in or reasonably suspected to have engaged in the acts described in Education Code sections 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, and 48900.7 is not reimbursable.*

B. Transfer Student Notifications (Ed. Code, § 48201, as amended by Stats. 2000, ch. 345 (AB 29))

- 1 For a receiving school district in which the pupil is transferring, to request from the school district in which the pupil was last enrolled any records the district maintains in its ordinary course of business or receives from a law enforcement agency regarding acts committed by the transferring pupil that resulted in the pupil's suspension from school or expulsion from the school district. (Ed. Code, § 48201, subd. (b)(1).)
2. For a sending school district in which the pupil was last enrolled, to provide upon request to the school district in which the pupil is transferring any suspension records the district maintains in its ordinary course of business or receives from a law enforcement agency regarding the acts committed by the transferring pupil that resulted in the pupil's suspension from school.

*Providing expulsion records is not reimbursable under this mandated program.*

3. Upon receipt of information regarding acts committed by the transferring pupil that resulted in suspension from school or expulsion from the school district, inform any teacher of the pupil that the pupil was suspended from school or expelled from the school district, and inform the teacher of the act that resulted in that action. (Ed. Code, § 48201, subd. (b)(1).)

## **V. CLAIM PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION**

Each of the following cost elements must be identified for each reimbursable activity identified in Section IV, Reimbursable Activities, of this document. Each claimed reimbursable cost must be supported by source documentation as described in Section IV. Additionally, each reimbursement claim must be filed in a timely manner.

### **A. Direct Cost Reporting**

Direct costs are those costs incurred specifically for the reimbursable activities. The following direct costs are eligible for reimbursement.

#### **1. Salaries and Benefits**

Report each employee implementing the reimbursable activities by name, job classification, and productive hourly rate (total wages and related benefits divided by productive hours). Describe the specific reimbursable activities performed and the hours devoted to each reimbursable activity performed.

#### **2. Materials and Supplies**

Report the cost of materials and supplies that have been consumed or expended for the purpose of the reimbursable activities. Purchases shall be claimed at the actual price after deducting discounts, rebates, and allowances received by the claimant. Supplies that are withdrawn from inventory shall be charged on an appropriate and recognized method of costing, consistently applied.

#### **3. Contracted Services**

Report the name of the contractor and services performed to implement the reimbursable activities. Attach a copy of the contract to the claim. If the contractor bills for time and materials, report the number of hours spent on the activities and all costs charged. If the contract is a fixed price, report the dates when services were performed and itemize all costs for those services.

#### **4. Fixed Assets and Equipment**

Report the purchase price paid for fixed assets and equipment (including computers) necessary to implement the reimbursable activities. The purchase price includes taxes, delivery costs, and installation costs. If the fixed asset or equipment is also used for purposes other than the reimbursable activities, only the pro-rata portion of the purchase price used to implement the reimbursable activities can be claimed.

#### **5. Travel**

Report the name of the employee traveling for the purpose of the reimbursable activities. Include the date of travel, destination point, the specific reimbursable activity requiring travel, and related travel expenses reimbursed to the employee in compliance with the

rules of the local jurisdiction. Report employee travel time according to the rules of cost element A.1., Salaries and Benefits, for each applicable reimbursable activity.

#### B. Indirect Cost Rates

Indirect costs are costs that have been incurred for common or joint purposes. These costs benefit more than one cost objective and cannot be readily identified with a particular final cost objective without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. After direct costs have been determined and assigned to other activities, as appropriate, indirect costs are those remaining to be allocated to benefited cost objectives. A cost may not be allocated as an indirect cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose, in like circumstances, has been claimed as a direct cost.

Indirect costs include: (a) the indirect costs originating in each department or agency of the governmental unit carrying out state mandated programs, and (b) the costs of central governmental services distributed through the central service cost allocation plan and not otherwise treated as direct costs.

School districts must use the J-380 (or subsequent replacement) non-restrictive indirect cost rate provisionally approved by the California Department of Education.

County offices of education must use the J-580 (or subsequent replacement) non-restrictive indirect cost rate provisionally approved by the California Department of Education.

### **VI. RECORD RETENTION**

Pursuant to Government Code section 17558.5, subdivision (a), a reimbursement claim for actual costs filed by a local agency or school district pursuant to this chapter<sup>6</sup> is subject to the initiation of an audit by the Controller no later than three years after the date that the actual reimbursement claim is filed or last amended, whichever is later. However, if no funds are appropriated or no payment is made to a claimant for the program for the fiscal year for which the claim is filed, the time for the Controller to initiate an audit shall commence to run from the date of initial payment of the claim. In any case, an audit shall be completed not later than two years after the date that the audit is commenced. All documents used to support the reimbursable activities, as described in Section IV, must be retained during the period subject to audit. If an audit has been initiated by the Controller during the period subject to audit, the retention period is extended until the ultimate resolution of any audit findings.

### **VII. OFFSETTING REVENUES AND REIMBURSEMENTS**

Any offsets the claimant experiences in the same program as a result of the same statutes or executive orders found to contain the mandate shall be deducted from the costs claimed. In addition, reimbursement for this mandate from any source, including but not limited to, service fees collected, federal funds, and other state funds, shall be identified and deducted from this claim.

### **VIII. STATE CONTROLLER'S CLAIMING INSTRUCTIONS**

Pursuant to Government Code section 17558, subdivision (b), the Controller shall issue claiming instructions for each mandate that requires state reimbursement not later than 60 days after receiving the adopted parameters and guidelines from the Commission, to assist local agencies and school districts in claiming costs to be reimbursed. The claiming instructions shall be

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<sup>6</sup> This refers to Title 2, division 4, part 7, chapter 4 of the Government Code.

derived from the test claim decision and the parameters and guidelines adopted by the Commission.

Pursuant to Government Code section 17561, subdivision (d)(1), issuance of the claiming instructions shall constitute a notice of the right of the local agencies and school districts to file reimbursement claims, based upon parameters and guidelines adopted by the Commission.

#### **IX. REMEDIES BEFORE THE COMMISSION**

Upon request of a local agency or school district, the Commission shall review the claiming instructions issued by the State Controller or any other authorized state agency for reimbursement of mandated costs pursuant to Government Code section 17571. If the Commission determines that the claiming instructions do not conform to the parameters and guidelines, the Commission shall direct the Controller to modify the claiming instructions and the Controller shall modify the claiming instructions to conform to the parameters and guidelines as directed by the Commission.

In addition, requests may be made to amend parameters and guidelines pursuant to Government Code section 17557, subdivision (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 1183.2.

#### **X. LEGAL AND FACTUAL BASIS FOR THE PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES**

The Statement of Decision is legally binding on all parties and provides the legal and factual basis for the parameters and guidelines. The support for the legal and factual findings is found in the administrative record for the test claim. The administrative record, including the Statement of Decision, is on file with the Commission.