

Sec. 1. Purpose of Policy.

Through this policy, the Board of Directors (hereafter, the “Board”) of LifeSchool of Dallas doing business as Life School (hereafter, the “School”) shall address the legal requirements, as applicable, pertaining to the Texas Legal Framework for the Child-Centered Special Education Process (“Framework”).

Sec. 2. Applicability.

Unless otherwise indicated, this Policy PG-6.20 applies to the School’s administration of the Special Education Allotment (“Allotment”) provided under the Foundation School Program, including the use of Allotment funds.¹

Sec. 3. Practice.

Unless otherwise indicated, the statements included in this Policy PG-6.20 are practice items under the Framework and, consequently, are requirements which the School must reflect in practice.

Sec. 4. Distribution of State Special Education Funds to School.

The Allotment is a student-based allotment provided to the School by the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”).² To ensure the School receives the proper amount of Allotment funds to which it is entitled, the School will develop and maintain a system for accurately reporting the data required by the TEA.³

Sec. 5. Appropriating and Obligating State Special Education Funds.

Sec. 5.1. Estimated Allocation.

The Delegate or designee must prepare an estimate of state aid that provides a reasonably accurate approximation of the Allotment to be received during the school year (“Estimated Allocation”). During the fiscal year, the Delegate or designee shall prepare a revised Estimated Allocation to determine if additional or less funding will be received for the Allotment.

¹ *Tex. Educ. Code § 48.102*

² *Id.*

³ *Tex. Educ. Code § 48.008(b); 19 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 55.1001; 89.1121; 129.1025*

Sec. 5.2. Appropriation.

In conjunction with the preparation of the Proposed Budget under Board Policy PG-5.021, the Delegate or designee must use the Estimated Allocation to prepare the budget for the use of Allotment funds. Once approved by the Board, the School may use Allotment funds as authorized by the Board in the Adopted Budget.⁴

Sec. 5.3. Encumbrances.

The Delegate or designee may only approve expenses to and disbursements from Allotment funds that have been encumbered to ensure compliance with the Adopted Budget.⁵

Sec. 6. Use of State Special Education Funds.

Sec. 6.1. Required Use.

The School must use at least fifty-five percent (55%) of the Allotment for the special education program.⁶ To demonstrate compliance, the Delegate or designee must develop and maintain a financial accounting system that accurately and separately accounts for the appropriation, obligation, expenditure, and disbursement of Allotment funds.⁷

Sec. 6.2. Approved Program.

The School must use the Allotment to operate an approved comprehensive special education program in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. The School may not divert Allotment funds to other purposes, except as otherwise allowed.⁸

Sec. 6.3. Carryover.

The School may carry unexpended Allotment funds over to the next fiscal year but must expend such funds in the subsequent fiscal year. The School may not use Allotment carryover funds for administrative costs.⁹

⁴ 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 100.1113(a)(1)(B)

⁵ 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 100.1067(b); Board Policy PG-5.021, Sec. 5.1; PG-5.102, Sec. 3

⁶ Tex. Educ. Code § 48.102(d)

⁷ 19 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 89.1121(d); 100.1067(b)

⁸ 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 89.1121(d)

⁹ 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 89.1121(e)

Sec. 6.4. Personnel.

For only that portion of time assigned to students with disabilities, the School may compensate an employee from Allotment funds if the employee is assigned to instructional or other duties in the special education program and/or to provide support services to the regular education program in order for students with disabilities to be included in the regular program.¹⁰

Sec. 6.5. Support Services.

Support services include, but are not be limited to:

- (a) Collaborative planning.
- (b) Co-teaching.
- (c) Small group instruction with special and regular education students.
- (d) Direct instruction to special education students.
- (e) Other support services determined necessary by the admission, review, and dismissal committee for an appropriate program for the student with disabilities.
- (f) Duties supportive to school operations equivalent to those assigned to regular education personnel.¹¹

Sec. 6.6. Allowed Use.

The School may use Allotment funds for the following goods and services.

- (a) Special materials and supplies which are directly related to the development and implementation of a student's individualized education program ("IEP").
- (b) If used directly with students, special equipment which is directly related to the development and implementation of student IEPs, including instructional and assistive

¹⁰ 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 89.1125(a)-(c)

¹¹ 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 89.1125(a)

technology devices, audiovisual equipment, computers for instruction or assessment purposes, and assessment equipment.

- (c) Consulting services to provide staff development, program planning and evaluation, instructional services, assessments, and related services to students with disabilities.
- (d) Transportation services only to and from residential placements.
- (e) Employee travel activities to perform services directly related to the education of eligible students with disabilities.
- (f) Travel by School administrators, general education teachers, and special education teachers and service providers to attend staff development meetings for the purpose of improving performance in assigned positions directly related to the education of eligible students with disabilities.
- (g) Joint training of parents and special education, related services, and general education personnel.¹²

Sec. 6.7. Unallowable Use.

The School may not use Allotment funds for the following activities, goods and services.

- (a) Special materials, supplies, and equipment which are ordinarily purchased for the regular classroom.
- (b) Office and routine classroom supplies.
- (c) Time spent, during a staff development event, performing functions relating to the operation of professional organizations.
- (d) Any activity, goods, and services not allowed under Sec. 6.6 of this policy.¹³

¹² 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 89.1125(d)-(g)

¹³ *Id.*