



County Offices of Education

The Role of the County Office of Education

Established by the Constitution of the State of California, the County Office of Education exists as an agency to help schools function effectively as learning institutions and as businesses. The 58 county offices of education are intermediate service units in California's public education system, facilitating communication between, and providing services for, the California Department

of Education and over 1,000 school districts throughout the state. County offices function not only as individual entities, but also as eleven Educational Service Regions. Services provided by county offices include those mandated by law and those that are provided locally or regionally as identified.

County Office Administration

The county superintendent of schools is responsible for administering the programs of the county office of education. In California, county superintendents are constitutional officers who have both

mandated and permissive responsibilities delineated by law. In most cases, the county superintendent is an elected official; however, in five counties, the county superintendent is appointed by the county board of education or county board of supervisors.

The county board of education, elected in all counties except Los Angeles (where both the board and superintendent are appointees of the county board of supervisors), is responsible for adopting the budget and establishing policy for the county office of education.

Relationship to Local School Districts

The relationship of county office to local school districts is that of providing support. The county office may supply specific student services to direct service districts¹, special schools and programs for district students

with identified low-incidence needs, and discretionary support services as needed and funding is identified.

The county office also serves as the coordinator of district reorganization, regionalized cooperative activities/consortia, and as the board of appeal for student due process and charter school approval.

 $^{^{}m 1}$ Those districts having under 301 ADA high school, 901 ADA elementary, 1501 ADA unified

Relationship to the California Department of Education

The county office facilitates communication between the local school districts and the state by acting as the agent of the state for purposes of data collection, fiscal reporting, district compliance, credentialing and teacher assignment. The county office

is also the local coordinator of statewide school, staff and student accountability and recognition programs.

School Districts & County Offices of Education Funding

A new funding model, called the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), was introduced in 2013–14. For school districts and charter schools, the LCFF creates base,

supplemental, and concentration grants in place of most previous K-12 funding streams.

The LCFF is designed to restore schools to pre-recession funding levels, over an eight-year period. Until full implementation, local educational agencies (LEAs) will receive roughly the amount of funding they received in 2012–13 plus an additional amount each year to bridge the gap between current funding and the new LCFF targets.

The LCFF includes the following components for school districts and charter schools:

- A base grant for each student, based on average daily attendance (ADA).
- An increase on the base grant amount for students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) and in grades nine through twelve (9-12).
- A supplemental grant (additional funding) for targeted disadvantaged students including those classified as English learners (EL), eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals, and/or foster youth.
- A concentration grant (additional funding) if the number of targeted students exceeds 55 percent of an LEA's enrollment.
- Additional funding based on an "economic recovery target" to ensure that virtually all districts are at least restored to their 2007–08 state funding levels (adjusted for inflation).

County Offices of Education receive LCFF funding based on several factors including (1) a minimum grant per county, (2) the number of school districts in the county, and (3) the ADA in the county attributable to school districts, charter schools, and schools operated by the county superintendent.

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Governance, Policy & Elections Employer-Employee Relations Negotiations Legal Services Consortium

Insurance, Risk Management/JPA

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Credentials/Certification Personnel Policy/Regulations Employment Support Systems Retirement Counseling

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Glen Paul School
Special Beginnings
HCOE Nurses/Health Team
Psychologists & Speech Services
Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)

BUSINESS SERVICES

COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Printing Services Web Site Development Intraschool Mail Distribution Videoconferencing

FISCAL SERVICES

Local Budget Development/LCFF Payroll Accounting Systems Assuring District Fiscal Integrity

Information Technology

Technical Support
Workstation Installation & Upgrades
Network Connectivity

JPA

Medical/Dental/Vision Workers' Compensation Property & Liability

MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

TRANSPORTATION

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

SCHOOL/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP SUPPORT

Assessment & Accountability

Co-op Services

Interdistrict Transfers & Attendance

Instructional Leadership

Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Prevention Programs/CA Healthy Kids Survey

Private School/Homeschool

Suspension/Expulsion

Williams Settlement/

Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA)

TEACHER/CLASSROOM/PROGRAM SUPPORT

After School Consortium

Arts Education

Early Childhood Education

English Learners

Library Media Center Services (HERC)

Nutrition Services

Parks Online Resources for Teachers and

Students (PORTS)

Professional Development

School/Teacher Recognition

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Charter Schools

Court & Community Schools

Foster/Homeless Youth Services

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

0-8 Mental Health Collaborative

Arts Network

Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council (CAPCC)

Decade of Difference/2020 Initiative

Local Child Care Planning Council (LCCPC)

Redwood EdVentures

Post Secondary Articulation

School Law Enforcement Network

STUDENT PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Humboldt Regional Occupational Program (HROP)

Literacy Programs

Rising Stars Foundation

Workability/TPP

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