



Out-of-district Tuition FAQ

Is a K-8 district now required to pay tuition to the High School for children attending 9-12th grade?

No. Districts will only be responsible for the students and grades they are organized and accredited to serve. If you are a K-8 district you are only responsible for K-8 students in your district.

Will the Infinite Campus system track student enrollment across districts?

Districts can see the information and history of their enrolled students. Districts are not able to see other districts enrollments.

How does a district determine what percentage to use to pay for students' tuition?

The District of Residence must pay the District of Attendance the lesser of 35.3% of the tuition per-ANB amount for the year of attendance. They will use the ANB of whichever school is lower, prorated for the actual days of attendance.

Example

A student from Fishtail (non-accredited 7-8 program so all rates are elementary level rates) chose to attend Absarokee (an accredited 7-8 program). Absarokee's rate is capped by the law at 35.3% and Fishtail's rate is 35.28%.

Sample Student cost in FY2024

	Elementary	High School
Per-ANB	\$ 6,123	\$ 7,840
Per-IBG	\$ 154.21	\$ 154.21
Per-RSBG	\$ 51.40	\$ 51.40
TOTAL	\$ 6,329	\$ 8,046

In this example Absarokee is the District of Attendance. So, they will issue an invoice at the lower of the two district's rates (35.28%), but at Absarokee's accredited rate. So, the invoice for one student, enrolled for one full year is $35.28\% \times \$8,046 = \$2,838.63$. Absarokee will invoice Fishtail \$2,838.63.

Where are resources to calculate the amount of tuition per student to be billed to the Districts of Residence?

There is currently a report to view student enrollment and tuition for Foster and Group Home students. Additional reporting tools are in development.

In MAEFAIRS:

- Locate “Views”
- Locate “Tuition”
- Select “Foster and Group Home Resident District” or “State Facilities Tuition District of Residence”
- Select your district
- Open the report in excel and view the student tuition

Does HB203 affect special education tuition?

HB 203 does not make changes to special education. Special Education programs and finance will continue to be governed by Title 20, Chapter 7, Part 4, MCA.

Is the District of Residence or the District of Attendance required to provide and pay for travel for discretionary enrollments?

Transportation is not required to be included in an agreement, but it is allowed. Transportation could be listed on an IEP as a related service, in which case it would be calculated in what is currently the special tuition rate.

Transportation can be determined per [20-5-320\(2\)\(b\), MCA](#)

- Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian;
- Transportation can be provided by agreement of the District of Residence and the District of Choice; or
- Transportation can be discretionarily provided by the district of attendance.

If a district offers an Early Literacy Intervention program, can the district charge 1.25 the amount if the student enrolls in the program?

No. The Early Literacy Intervention program is dependent on the district that is serving the student. Additional information can be found at [Early Literacy Resources webpage](#).

Is there an obligation to pay for a student who attends in another district remotely and not physically? Will a District of Residence be required to pay tuition for a student who remotely attends classes in another district (District of Attendance)?

Section [20-7-118, MCA](#), does not specifically address payment of tuition for remote instruction, but a pupil attending under an out-of-district attendance agreement would be subject to the terms of that agreement, including tuition.

The Board of Public Education may, but has not yet, adopt standards for remote instruction.

Do the Board of Trustees need to go into closed session to approve each agreement?

Please refer to the applicable School Board’s policies.

Are impact aid schools required to assess tuition within their impact aid calculations?

Impact Aid is unaffected by HB 203. A district serving out-of-district students who are federally connected can keep counting those students and generating Impact Aid in the same manner they have been pre-HB 203.