



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Division of Finance & Internal Operations
Bureau of Fiscal Services, Grants Management Unit

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Will the balance of the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant still be paid in April? Will there be any adjustment because of the shortened school year?** Districts will be paid the balance of their ECS grant at the end of April. There will not be an adjustment because of the shortened school year.
- 2. Will the Excess Cost – Special Education Grant be paid based on the claims filed as of March 1, 2020?** Yes, the department will use the March 1 filing for the payment of Excess Cost – Special Education claims for this year. **Please note:** depending on your actual expenditures filing at the end of the current fiscal year, you may see an adjustment to your grant amount which will be reconciled in your April 2021 ECS payment.
- 3. Will the balance of school choice program grants such as Magnet Schools, Open Choice, and Charter Schools be paid in full or will there be an adjustment because of the shortened school year?** Choice program operators will be paid in full in accordance with the current statutory payment deadlines. There will not be an adjustment because of the shortened school year.
- 4. How will the department handle the withholding of unpaid Magnet School tuition from the April ECS payment? Will the amount of the withholding be prorated to reflect the shortened school year?** Pursuant to CT General Statutes Section 10-264(l), we will withhold unpaid magnet school tuition from the April ECS payment. The amount will not be prorated to reflect the shortened school year. Just like local school districts that expect to receive their full ECS payment despite the current situation, RESC magnet school operators anticipated receiving their full tuition revenue when planning their budgets for the current year.
- 5. Will Alliance Districts be able to carry forward unspent Alliance grant funds into the next fiscal year?** Statute currently allows for Alliance Districts to be able to carry forward unspent Alliance grant funds into the next fiscal year. The department has notified the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) that we would like to implement this section of statute. **Please note:** the department can only carry forward funds that have not yet been drawn down into the following fiscal year.
- 6. Will Priority School Districts (PSD) be able to carry forward unspent PSD grant funds into the next fiscal year?** Unlike the Alliance District grant program, the PSD statute does not currently allow for funds to be carried into the following fiscal year. The department is working with OPM to see if a solution can be found either legislatively or through administrative action.

Our office will continue to update these questions as additional information is received. Please do not hesitate to call or email Kathy Demsey, CFO at 203-206-4885 or kathy.demsey@ct.gov if you have any questions.