

**New Hampshire Department of Education
Division of Education Analytics and Resources
Bureau of School Finance**

To: Commissioner Davis
From: Mark Manganiello, Bureau of School Finance, NHED
Date: 2/17/2026
Re: HB751

The following is the potential cost to make open-enrollment funded with State dollars only, except for special education, in a manner similar to the funding for Charter Schools.

FY 2027 Adequacy Funding Verse Funding Open Enrollment At Charter School Aid Rates			
Grant Components	Adequacy Formula	Open Enrollment Grant	Net Cost Increase (Savings)
Base Aid		\$4,351	\$0
F&R Aid		\$2,441	\$0
Special Ed Aid		\$2,229	\$0
English Language Learner Aid		\$849	\$0
Net Cost (Except for Students Leaving An Excess SWEPT Community)			\$0
Extraordinary Needs Grant & Fiscal Capacity Grant <i>Not Applicable</i>	\$0	\$5,200	\$5,200
Extraordinary Needs Grant & Fiscal Capacity Grant <i>Average</i>	\$1,135		\$4,065
Extraordinary Needs Grant & Fiscal Capacity Grant <i>Maximum</i>	\$12,980		(\$7,780)
Grand Total Max Possible State Grant Per Student	\$22,850	\$15,070	(\$7,780)
Analysis: The net cost per student attending an open enrollment school verse remaining in their existing resident district pathway would range from a State savings of \$7,780 or an additional State cost of \$5,200 per student.			

NH currently has 30 open enrollment students coming from 10 communities. Of those 30 students, two are free and reduced-price meal eligible. Of the 10 communities where open enrollment students reside, six of those communities receive a targeted grant such as fiscal disparity or an extraordinary needs grant. Only one of the 10 communities is an excess SWEPT community and no cost savings would occur under a new proposed funding mechanisms for open enrollment.

Assumption On Open Enrollment Aid Amount:

Since it is unknown where the future open enrollment students will reside, it is assumed that the net cost to the State will be \$5,200. A net savings may occur, but the impact will likely be minimal overall.

Total Open Enrollment Cost To The State:

If open enrollment reaches demand of 1 percent statewide, the total number of students will reach 1,489. This amount of program participation will provide a net cost of \$7.7 million (1,489 x \$5,200). The cost savings will not be experienced until the following year when the reduction in district adequacy occurs.