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Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

k12.wa.us

June 07, 2021

( ) Action Required

(X) Informational

**BULLETIN NO. 040-21 SCHOOL APPORTIONMENT AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents  
School District Superintendents  
School District Business Managers  
Public Charter Schools  
Tribal Compact Schools  
District Absenteeism & Truancy Liaisons

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: State Reimbursement for 2020–21 Truancy Petitions

CONTACT: Melissa Jarmon, Apportionment Program Supervisor  
360-725-6307, [melissa.jarmon@k12.wa.us](mailto:melissa.jarmon@k12.wa.us)

## **PURPOSE/BACKGROUND**

The Operating Budget Appropriations Act (Engrossed Substitute House Bill 6168, Laws of 2020) contains an appropriation of \$1,399,000 for 2020–21 to offset the costs incurred for petitions filed with juvenile court(s) because of student truancy as provided in RCW 28A.225.030 and 28A.225.035. The 2020–21 appropriation expires on June 30, 2021; therefore, the money is used for truanancies occurring June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021, and will be distributed with June’s apportionment payments.

## **COVID Impacts**

Truancy petition filings were greatly impacted over the last two school years due to COVID-19. First, in 2019–20 with school facility closures and then again in 2020–21, with the OSPI emergency rule ([Chapter 392-401A WAC](#)). This emergency rule greatly reduced the number of truancy petitions that were filed this year. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with the Administrative Office of the Courts, adjusted the funding distribution to ensure that districts, charter schools, and tribal compact schools receive comparable funding to previous years. Each reimbursement is based on the average of the two school years prior to 2020–21 and 2019–20, including 2017–18 and 2018–19.

## FUNDING

The rate of funding for 2020–21 is \$126.62 per petition.

Payments will be shown on Report 1197, Statement of Apportionment, in revenue account 415806 "TRUANCY."

Funding for truancy petitions filed after May 31, for the 2020–21 school year are to be reported with the 2021–22 school year claim.

## INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Melissa Jarmon, School Apportionment and Financial Services, at 360-725-6307 or email [melissa.jarmon@k12.wa.us](mailto:melissa.jarmon@k12.wa.us) The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins | OSPI \(www.k12.wa.us\)](https://www.k12.wa.us/Bulletins) page of the OSPI website.

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CR:mj