



Special Education Expansion and Development (SEED) Grant

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

10/16/2025

(Use of Funds Question #2 Updated 10/27/2025)

In accordance with [Public Act \(PA\) 25-67 § 7](#), the special education expansion and development (SEED) grant provides boards of education with additional funds to be used for special education purposes. The following frequently asked questions (FAQ) resource was developed based on initial inquiries that the CSDE has received from our school districts.

General Information

1. Where can I find information about the SEED Grant?

During the 2025 Legislative Session, the General Assembly established the Special Education and Expansion Development Grant (SEED) through [PA 25-67 § 7](#). Please visit the CSDE's [SEED Grant](#) webpage for information about this grant.

Allocations

1. How were the SEED grant allocations calculated?

[PA 25-67 § 7](#) references Connecticut General Statute (CGS) § 10-262f as the calculation methodology for the new grant, which is the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) statute.

2. Why were Regional School Districts excluded from the calculation?

[PA 25-67 § 7](#) references CGS § 10-262f as the calculation methodology for the new grant, which is the ECS statute.

ECS is allocated by town through a formula, therefore, the SEED grant is also allocated by town.

Regional districts should work with the resident towns from which they receive students, to receive an allocation of the SEED grant, similarly to how they receive ECS funding.

Application and Reporting Requirements

1. What are the reporting requirements for the SEED Grant?

A funding application will be built into the electronic grant management system (eGMS) in the upcoming weeks. The application will include a requirement to describe aspects of the program (i.e., purpose/goal, student population served, outcome, how the outcome will be measured, proposed activity/activities), as well as to complete a proposed budget, which shall correspond to the items identified in the program description.

At the end of the year, local education agencies (LEA's) with a SEED grant of \$10,000 or more will be required to submit an expenditure report in the eGMS as well.

2. How should LEAs document the use of these funds?

All LEAs receiving SEED grant funds will be required to complete a proposed budget in the eGMS. Though, only LEAs with SEED grant allocations of \$10,000 or more will be required to submit an expenditure report in the eGMS, all LEAs must maintain an accurate record of the actual expenditures and adhere to grant requirements. NOTE: The legislation outlines penalties for improper use of SEED grant funds.

3. Do we need to submit fund requests to receive SEED grant monies?

No. The SEED grant funds will be distributed as an entitlement grant and will not require fund requests.

Use of Funds

The CSDE expects that eligible LEAs will propose activities that are in alignment with local special education strategic planning and consider how this grant aligns with and/or enhances activities being paid for through other state/federal grants. Additionally, Pursuant to [PA 25-67 § 7](#) (e)(1) the increase funding the school district receives through the SEED grant funds may not be used to supplant special education funding but can be used for expansion and development of special education purposes.

1. What are the acceptable use of funds?

All aid distributed to a board of education pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be expended for "special education purposes" only.

As documented in [PA 25-67 § 7](#) (e) (1), "special education purposes" means the direct provision of special education and related services to students, Tier 2 interventions, academic and behavioral interventions, the hiring and salaries of special education teachers, paraeducators and behavioral

and reading specialists who work directly with students, equipment purchases and maintenance, and curriculum materials. "Special education purposes" does not include any (A) administrative functions or operating expenses related to the provision of special education and related services, or (B) special education and related services provided by any third-party contractor.

2. Can funds be used to pay for salaries of special education teachers (or paraeducators or behavioral and reading specialists) we already employ?

Yes, but only if the position they are working in is new as of July 1, 2025, when [PA 25-67 § 7](#) went into effect. As a reminder, SEED grant funds can be used for the salaries of special education teachers, paraeducators, and behavioral and reading specialists who are responsible for the direct provision of special education and related services to students, Tier 2 interventions, and academic and/or behavioral intervention.

3. In subsequent SEED grant applications, are LEAs required to only use funds for “new” special education purposes.

No. Approved “special education purposes” for the 2025-26 school year, may be continued in subsequent years upon application approval.

4. Can funds be used to pay for contracted BCBA services?

No. In accordance with [PA 25-67 § 7 \(e\) \(1\)](#), funds may not be used for any third-party contractor to provide services. However, a BCBA may be hired to work directly for the Board of Education for example to support in-district, inclusive programming for students with challenging behaviors, which would be an allowable expense.

5. Can funds be used to pay for a general education teacher providing Tier 1 instruction?

No. Funds must be utilized for special education purposes.

6. Can funds be used to pay for a classroom teacher to provide intervention and/or coteaching?

Yes. As long as the teacher is responsible for the direct provision of special education and related services to students, Tier 2 (Tier 3) interventions, and academic and/or behavioral interventions.

NOTE: Please see question 8 below regarding Tier 3 interventions.

7. Can funds be used for Tier 2 interventions?

Yes. For the purpose of this grant, Tier 2 interventions are included in the description of “special education purposes.” Districts may allocate SEED funds to expand/develop general education interventions (Tier 2/Tier 3 only). For example, a district may hire a math interventionist in the middle school, as part of their early intervention process.

8. Can funds be used for Tier 3 interventions?

Although the legislative language does not specifically include Tier 3 interventions as meeting the definition of “special education purposes,” SEED grant funds may be used for this purpose as Tier 3 is a more intensive general education intervention for students. Districts may allocate SEED funds to expand/develop general education interventions (Tier 2/Tier 3 only). For example, a district may hire a reading interventionist in the elementary school, as part of their early intervention process.

9. Can funds be used for interdistrict collaboration?

Yes. LEAs may use the funds for interdistrict collaboration, as long as such activities adhere to the allowable use of funds. For example, districts may expand/develop a secondary transition program to serve students requiring transition-only services.

10. Can funds be used to build in-district programs?

Yes. LEAs may use the funds for in-district programs, as long as such activities adhere to the allowable use of funds. For example, districts may expand/develop a therapeutic program to serve students with intensive behavioral needs.

11. Can funds be used to hire third-party vendors to provide professional development to staff?

No. The legislation does not identify professional development as an allowable expense. SEED grant funds are to be used for the direct provision of special education and related services to students, Tier 2 interventions (Tier 3 interventions), academic and behavioral interventions, the hiring and salaries of special education teachers, paraeducators and behavioral and reading specialists who work directly with students, equipment purchases and maintenance, and curriculum materials.

12. What types of curriculum materials are allowable?

Curriculum supplies, including technology-related software/hardware, can be purchased if they are used in the direct provision of special education and related services, Tier 2/Tier 3 interventions, or academic and/or behavioral interventions.

13. What equipment purchases and maintenance are allowable?

Expenditures for equipment (and maintenance to such equipment) can be expended if they are used in the direct provision of special education and related services, Tier 2/Tier 3 interventions, or academic and/or behavioral interventions.

14. What is the age range of students?

SEED grant funds are to be used for special education purposes only. In Connecticut, students are eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) from age 3 through the end of the school year during which the student turns age 22. Therefore, SEED grant funds can be used for students age 3 through the end of the school year during which the student turns age 22.

15. Do the funds have to be liquidated before June 30, 2026? What are the parameters related to the expenditure window?

Fiscal year 26 (ED26) SEED grant funds are to be expended between July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. There is no extended liquidation beyond June 30, 2026.

Strategic Considerations for School Districts

- Ensure alignment of SEED funding with your local strategic planning for special education and general education intervention procedures.
- Expand the school district's capacity to provide in-district programming to reduce the need to place students in out-of-district placements.
- Develop and enhance academic and behavioral supports for students to improve early intervention systems.
- Maintain clear documentation of efforts to demonstrate alignment between SEED goals, activities and expenditures.
- Collaborate with your business office regarding how SEED grant funds may impact Federal supplement, not supplant rules.

Questions about the SEED grant can be directed to Bryan Klimkiewicz by email at bryan.klimkiewicz@ct.gov.

Questions about the SEED grant allocation and/or expenditure reports can be directed to Jessica Brunetti by email at Jessica.Brunetti@ct.gov.