



NDE: Announcements/Reminders from School Finance & Organization Services (March)

March 1, 2021

Announcements

Certification Date for 2021/22 State Aid & Budgeting Factors

The certification date for 2021/22 State Aid & Budgeting Factors will be on March 1, 2021 per statute. NDE will be emailing out the State Aid Calculated by System Document and Budget Authority Spreadsheet to meet the certification requirement but will not be posting information on our website or providing any other certification documents at this time due to pending Legislative bills that could change the certification state aid and budget authority. NDE will either be releasing additional information at a later date related to this certification or recertifying state aid and budget authority depending on what happens in the Legislature.

Deadline Approaching

New National Grants for Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Available (Deadline March 16, 2021)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of approximately \$46M in grant funds to support projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. Schools are eligible to apply for these grants. The deadline to apply is March 16, 2021. For more detailed information, visit <https://www.epa.gov/dera/national>.

Upcoming Due Dates/Dates of Importance

Request for Updates to the 2021/22 Special Grant Fund List (Due April 2, 2021)

The proposed list of Special Grant Funds for 2021/22 school district budgeting is available on the FOS website at <https://www.education.ne.gov/fos/special-grant-fund-list/>. If approved by the State Board of Education at its May meeting, funds budgeted to be received from these grants will be treated separately in the expenditure limitation calculations of local school districts under the provisions of the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act. Only categorical grants that will not increase property tax requests are eligible.

- Please review the proposed list and submit suggestions for additions or deletions by **Friday, April 2, 2021** to Michelle Cartwright at michelle.cartwright@nebraska.gov.

Information/Documents Recently Made Available

Dates for School District Budget Preparations

Dates related to the 2021/22 school district budgeting process are available (including availability of materials and dates for the School Finance Webinar, New Superintendent Orientations, and budget assistance) at <https://www.education.ne.gov/fos/budgeting-school-district/schoolfinancebudgetassistance/>.

- Contacts: Michelle Cartwright at (402) 450-0867 or michelle.cartwright@nebraska.gov; or
- Janice Eret at (402) 540-0649 or janice.eret@nebraska.gov,

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