

Using Federal Funds to Reduce Class Size

Georgia Department of Education
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Presenters



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Introduction



- Class Size Reduction (CSR) flexibility allows a local educational agency (LEA) to use federal funds to reduce class size.
- Research has found that small classes can have a positive influence on student achievement, all other factors being equal. Finn (1998); Nye (1995)
- Class size is only one factor educators must consider when allocating resources to improve student achievement.

Introduction



- Studies have also shown that students with ineffective teachers lose percentile points of achievement as compared to those children with an effective teacher. Sanders and Rivers (1996)
 - Teacher expertise accounts for more difference in student performance—40%—than any other factor. Ferguson (2001)
 - Students who have several effective teachers in a row make dramatic achievement gains, while those who have even two ineffective teachers in a row lose significant ground. Sack (1999)

Introduction



- Creating smaller classes with highly effective teachers may produce greater student achievement.
- Local educators decide how to best use their federal funds to improve the quality of instruction.

Considerations



Several questions must be answered in determining when federal funds may be used to reduce class size:

- How many state or locally paid teachers are required to meet maximum class size requirements?
- Are the classes designed for at-risk children?
- Are the classes self-contained?
- Are the classes departmentalized?

Considerations



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- Do the classes earn additional full time equivalent (FTE) state dollars?
 - For which program(s)? Early Intervention Program (EIP),
 Remedial Education Program (REP), Gifted Education,
 Special Education?
 - O What delivery model is used?

EIP, REP, Gifted, Special Education



- Federal funds may be used to reduce the overall class size of regular education classes where an inclusion/augmented model is used to serve students in the EIP, REP, Gifted Program, or Special Education Program.
- Federal funds may NOT be used to reduce class size for the purpose of serving students in the EIP, REP, Gifted Program, or Special Education Program.

EIP, REP, Gifted, Special Education



 Augmented or inclusion models for special populations or programs require additional teaching staff, who will be paid by the funds generated by the higher FTE weight assigned to the special population.

Class size Reduction Workbook



Five Worksheets

- 1. Directions for completing the self-contained and the departmentalized worksheets
- 2. Sample Self-Contained
- 3. Sample Departmentalized
- 4. Self-Contained Worksheet
- 5. Departmentalized Worksheet



- Highlighted columns contain formulas. Do not enter data in these columns
- Click on Self-Contained Worksheet tab in Class Size Reduction Workbook (not sample-Self Contained)
- Grade column Enter the grade level
- Course column Enter "all subjects"



- LEA Maximum Class Size column Enter either
 - Per Georgia SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.08
 OR
 - Per Charter/IE2 LEA Local Class Size Numbers reported to the GaDOE Charter Schools Division
- Total Students Enrolled in Self-Contained Regular Education Classes column – Enter total number of students in the grade who will be taught in a regular self-contained class



- Number of Teachers Required to Meet LEA
 Maximum Class Size column will automatically
 divide the number of students by LEA maximum
 class size
- Teachers Paid with State or Local Funds column -Enter the number of teachers paid with State or local funds teaching a regular education selfcontained class



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- Class Size Average before Reducing Class Size with Federal Funds column will automatically divide the total students by teachers paid with State or local funds to give average class size
 - This column will show, mathematically, which grade has a greater need for class size reduction. Along with the class size, consider the needs assessment results for final determination



- The Number of non-Federally Funded Teachers
 Meets Requirements to Reduce Class Size Using
 Federal Funds this column will display "Yes" if the
 requirement for number of State or locally funded
 teachers has been met, or "No" if the requirement
 has not been met. Do not enter data in this
 column.
- Additional Teachers Paid With Federal Funds column – Enter the number of teachers paid with federal funds



- Total Number of Teachers column will automatically add the number of State/local paid teachers and the number of Federal paid teachers
- The Final Average Class Size column will automatically give the quotient when the total number of students enrolled is divided by the sum of the State and locally paid teachers plus the additional teacher paid with federal funds.



- Number of Teachers Funded By Title I column Enter the number of federal paid teachers funded by Title I
- Number of Teachers Funded By Title II, Part A
 column Enter the number of federal paid
 teachers funded by Title II, Part A



- Highlighted columns contain formulas. Do not enter data in these columns
- Click on the Departmentalized Worksheet tab in the Class Size Reduction workbook – NOT the sample-Departmentalized tab
- Grade column Enter the grade level; for High School, enter 9-12
- Course column Enter the course name



- LEA Maximum Class Size column Enter either
 - OPer Georgia SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.08

OR

 Per Charter/IE2 LEA Local Class Size Numbers reported to the Department's Charter Schools Division

 Total Students Enrolled in Course — Enter total number of students in the course



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- Total Segments Required to Meet LEA Maximum Class Size column will automatically divide the number of students by LEA maximum class size
- Segments Paid with State or Local Funds Enter the number of segments of the course paid with State or local funds



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- Average Segment Size before Reducing Class Size with Federal Funds column will automatically divide the total students by segments paid with State or local funds to give average segment size
 - This column will show, mathematically, which course has a greater need for class size reduction. Along with the segment size, consider the needs assessment results for final determination



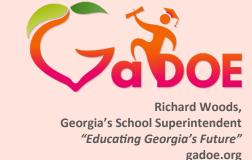
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- Number of non-Federally Funded Instructional Segments Meets Requirements to Reduce Class Size Using Federal Funds this column will display "Yes" if the requirement for number of State or locally funded segments has been met, or "No" if the requirement has not been met.
- Additional Instructional Segments Paid With Federal Funds column – Enter the number of instructional segments/classes paid with federal funds.



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- Total Number of Instructional Segments column will automatically add the number of State/local paid segments and the number of Federal paid segments
- The Final Average Segment Size column will automatically give the quotient when the total number of students enrolled is divided by the sum of the State and locally paid segments plus the additional segments paid with federal funds.



- Number of Instructional Segments Funded by Title I column – Enter the number of federal paid teachers funded by Title I
- Number of Instructional Segments Funded by Title II, Part A column – Enter the number of federal paid teachers funded by Title II, Part A

Final Reminder



After a school district has ensured all maximum class size rules have been met at an individual school, the district may then hire additional teachers with federal funds to reduce class sizes. Any teachers hired with federal funds must be supplemental to those required by State rule 160-5-1-.08, or Charter/IE2 local class size number reported to the Department's Charter Schools Division.

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