



Truancy Reduction Supports

1. **Purpose:**

This proviso is intended to support youth who meet the criteria for truancy outlined in Chapter 28A.225 – [Compulsory School Attendance](#), or at risk of being truant, and for costs incurred by the school district in the processing of truancy petitions.

2. **Description of services provided:**

This funding is pass through directly to school districts.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

The funding methodology was based on the average of the two school years prior to 2020–21 and 2019–20, including 2017–18 and 2018–19. If a school district did not file any truancy petitions, they did not receive any funding.

For the 2022–23 school year, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) maintained the same allocations as the previous school year (2021–22). This approach maintains funding stability for districts that have already used these funds for truancy related staffing and support.

More details can be found in this communication to school districts in [OSPI Bulletin 035-23](#).

Beneficiaries in the 2022-23 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	152
Number of Schools:	N/A
Number of Students:	N/A
Number of Educators:	N/A
Other:	N/A

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

No



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5. State funding history:

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2023	\$1,399,000	\$1,399,000
2022	\$1,399,000	\$1,399,000

6. Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:

Fiscal Year	Number of Schools
2023	152
2022	152

7. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):

This funding had historically been passed through from Administrative Office of the Courts to OSPI then to school districts and was based on a pro-rated amount per petition filed, with the sole purpose of reimbursing districts for their administrative time in filing petitions.

Truancy petition filings were greatly impacted over the 2019-20 and 2020-21 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 that year. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with the Administrative Office of the Courts, adjusted the funding distribution for 2020-21 to ensure that districts, charter schools, and tribal compact schools receive comparable funding to previous years. 2021-22 was the first year that OSPI received this funding directly.

During the 2021 legislative session, the Legislature expanded the scope of this funding from solely reimbursing school districts for the costs of filing truancy petitions. School districts may now use the funds to support youth that are at risk of becoming truant or youth that are truant. This change will necessitate a different methodology of distributing funding to school districts. Moving forward, the funding will no longer be based solely on the number of petitions filed. However, for the 2022–23 school year, OSPI maintained the same allocations as the previous school year (2021–22).

8. Program evaluation or evaluation of major findings:

The majority of districts responded affirmatively that this funding supports staffing capacity to directly work with youth that are at-risk of becoming truant or are truant.



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9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

The amount of funds is not sufficient to have significant impact when distributed in such small amounts across the state. The development of a new methodology must entail a decision regarding increasing grant amounts which would reduce the number of districts supported or continue to fund FTE piecemeal across the state.

10. **Future opportunities:**

None

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

\$1,399,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$1,399,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for school districts to support youth who are truant under chapter [28A.225 RCW](#) or at risk of becoming truant, and for costs associated with filing or serving petitions under [RCW 28A.225.030](#).

12. **Other relevant information:**

None

13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

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14. **Program Contact Information:**

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