

# *E2SSB 5315 Special Education/Nonpublic*

## Statutory and/or Budget Language

\$169,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$487,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for implementation of Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5315 (special education/nonpublic).

## Purpose

This funding supports all work associated with implementing SB 5315 and the creation of an administrative structure for sustaining OSPI's ongoing responsibility for authorizing, monitoring, and investigating authorized nonpublic agencies.

## Description of Services Provided

OSPI staff provide ongoing oversight of authorized nonpublic agencies and support to all Washington public school districts using placement at a nonpublic agency to provide special education services. OSPI also uses funds to contract with an expert consultant for the implementation of SB 5315. Services to OSPI and public school districts include: (1) the creation of a searchable nonpublic agency roster containing spreadsheets of information based on the current nonpublic agency contract requirements as outlined in SB 5315; (2) the creation of a field guide for school district administrators which contains guidelines for IEP Teams when the needs of the student go beyond what can be provided by a school district; (3) direct technical assistance to school district administrators on the placement process for nonpublic agencies; and (4) reports studying best practices for the creation of a standardized complaint process for nonpublic agencies and best practices nationwide for policies and procedures relating to state approval and monitoring of nonpublic agencies.

## Criteria for Receiving Services and/or Grants

Services are available to all public school districts in Washington interested in exploring a potential placement at an authorized nonpublic agency.

## Beneficiaries in the 2023-24 School Year

<b>Number of School Districts</b>	All public school districts, charter schools, etc.
<b>Number of Schools</b>	N/A
<b>Number of Students</b>	N/A
<b>Number of Educators</b>	N/A
<b>Other</b>	N/A



## Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No.

## State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	\$169,000	\$70,120

## Number of Beneficiaries Per Fiscal Year (e.g. School Districts, Schools, Students, Educators, Other)

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2024	295 school districts; approx. 553 students

## Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

None.

## Program Evaluation or Evaluation of Major Findings

OSPI publishes an annual report to the legislature which details the current status of the program to monitor and provide oversight to nonpublic agencies as well as an evaluation and discussion of major program findings: [12-24-placement-students-authorized-entities-npas.pdf](#).

## Major Challenges Faced by the Program

OSPI was delayed in its ability to identify an expert consultant and execute a contract for services until February 2024. The overall scope of the project – specifically the collaboration with other partners as well as the amount of travel and the logistics associated with travel to and monitoring of nonpublic agencies – creates ongoing delays implementing SB 5315.

## Future Opportunities

Additional/continued funding is needed to continue the work of implementing SB 5315. The program could grow with more funding to explore options for sharing documents as part of the application and ongoing authorization process (e.g., EGMS, SharePoint, etc). Implementing SB 5315 has also revealed additional needs related to: (1) interagency collaboration between OSPI and the WA Department of Health (DOH) licensure process; (2) interagency collaboration between OSPI and the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) on stabilization services for students, including students in hospital/emergency room settings; (3) exploring greater collaboration and transparency in the process of working with Medicaid on reimbursement payments for both in-state and interstate placements; (4) exploring the applicability of SB 5315 implementation to ESD-run programs for students receiving special education services; and (5) expanding the applicability of the SB 5315

process for authorized entities to programs for students aged 18-22 returning to Washington from authorized out-of-state nonpublic agency placements and for students in need of an out-of-state stabilization program for the purposes of a short-term diagnostic evaluation.

## Other Relevant Information

None.

## Schools/Districts Receiving Assistance

[Click here to see a list of all OSPI grant recipients in the 2024 Fiscal Year.](#)

## Program Contact Information

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