
November 18, 2024

TO: School District Administrators
FROM: Division of Fiscal Support
SUBJECT: 2024-25 First Interim Financial Reporting

Education Code (EC) Sections 35035(i), 42130, and 42131 require the Governing Board of each school district to certify at least twice a year through the Interim Report Process the district's ability to meet its financial obligation for the remainder of that fiscal year and for the subsequent two fiscal years.

The First Interim Report for fiscal year 2024-25, must be board approved and is due to Kern County Superintendent of Schools on or before **December 16th, 2024**. SACS file(s) must be promoted to the county office for review and hard copy forms **containing original signatures** must be delivered to our office to:

District Advisory Services 5th Floor
Attention: Matthew Hughes
1300 17th St – City Centre
Bakersfield CA 93301
mahughes@kern.org

Attached are several documents containing key information and assumptions for preparing your First Interim Report. Please see attached MYP assumptions list for consideration and use by districts in developing their 2024-25 First Interim and multiyear projections.

STATE CRITERIA AND STANDARDS

Form CI has summarized data from the Criteria and Standards Review form in order to provide additional support to the district Governing Board's certification process. The certification shall be classified as positive, qualified or negative, defined as follows:

CERTIFICATIONS (EC 42131 (a) (1)):

1. A Positive Certification shall be assigned for those LEAs that WILL MEET their financial obligations for the current and two subsequent fiscal years (meets state minimum reserve levels in all years).
2. A Qualified Certification shall be assigned for those LEAs that MAY NOT MEET their financial obligations for the current or two subsequent fiscal years (not meeting reserves in one year).

3. A Negative Certification shall be assigned for those LEAs that WILL BE UNABLE TO MEET their financial obligations for the remainder of the current or subsequent fiscal year based upon current projections (not meeting reserves in current year or not maintaining a positive cash balance in the current or first subsequent year).

STATE STANDARDIZED ACCOUNT CODE STRUCTURE (SACS) WEB SYSTEM

The Standardized Account Code Structure (SACS) Web financial reporting system facilitates the preparation of budget, interim, and unaudited actuals reporting period data and reports that are submitted to oversight agencies and the California Department of Education (CDE).

SACS Web System Link: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/Fg/sf/fr/>

COUNTY OFFICE ASSISTANCE

Contact your District Fiscal Analyst for assistance in the following areas:

Revenue and Budget Projection – LCFF revenue projections, Educational Protection Account, Lottery, State Aid, and Special Education, Cash Flow Projections, Software, or any other areas.

If you have any questions concerning the completion of the First Interim Financial Report and additional documentation, please contact your designated District Fiscal Analyst.

Our office has provided you with a checklist of all appropriate certifications, reports, completed attachments and other documentation. This checklist will ensure a complete and timely submission.

JP:mwh
Enc.

MYP ASSUMPTIONS THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AND REVIEWED

Federal Revenues

- Explain any significant difference from the budget or interim.

Lottery Revenues

- Identify projected lottery amounts per ADA.

Categorical Program Revenues

- Explain any significant difference from the Budget or First Interim.

New tax and revenue anticipation notes (TRANS)

- For any new TRANS, identify the issue amount, costs, repayment schedule, and arbitrage.

Other significant changes in revenues

- Explain any significant changes in other local revenues such as leases, rentals, etc.

One-time Revenues

- Explain any significant changes from the budget or first interim in one-time revenues.

Certificated and classified salaries

- Describe the current status of negotiations with the collective bargaining groups.
- Identify unsettled salary increases included in the interim report, if any.
- Identify assumptions used regarding the costs of step and column increases, attrition, and finalized collective bargaining agreements.
- Describe the costs associated with other staffing changes and class size adjustments.

Employee benefits

- Identify the rates used in projecting benefits for STRS, PERS, Social Security, Medicare, Unemployment Insurance, and Workers' Compensation.
- Identify unsettled increases in benefits included in the interim report, if any.
- Identify assumptions used regarding the component costs of the health and welfare benefit packages, identifying self-funded portions and explaining any applicable caps.

Retirement packages

- Briefly summarize district policy, the number of retirees covered, the costs of the current benefits, the assumptions used to project, and the object and fund in which these costs are recorded.
- Identify the costs associated with a golden handshake or other retirement package, including multi-year costs.

Other significant expenditures (Objects 4000 through 7000)

- Explain any significant changes from the budget or first interim in one-time expenses, such as spending a sizeable carryover, one-time capital outlay, or facilities improvements.
- Describe all major obligations including COPs, lease-purchases, and bond repayments.
- Identify amounts due in the budget year and the basic terms of the obligations.

- Explain the purpose of any major transfers between funds.

Components of ending fund balance

- Explain any material changes from the budget or first interim in the component amounts.
- Explain the designated components of the ending fund balances.

Net change in fund balance – General Fund

- Explain any significant budgeted unrestricted deficits. Description should detail the causes and explain whether the deficits are ongoing or one-time. If ongoing, an explanation should be provided on how and when the deficits will be eliminated.

Reserve for Economic Uncertainties

- The reserve cap triggered by Education Code 42127.01 (enacted with SB 858, statutes of 2015 and amended by SB 751) is **not** in place for the 2024-25 fiscal year. In addition, the reserve cap is not expected to be in place for the 2025-26 fiscal year either. Districts are advised to manage reserves in a conservative manner for the current and subsequent fiscal years.

OTHER FUNDS

Significant changes in revenues, expenditures, or transfers

- Explain any material differences in the other funds from the budget or first interim report in revenues, expenditures, or transfers.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FIRST INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

The Interim Financial Report documentation to be submitted and certified by the Governing Board and transmitted to District Advisory Services consists of the following:

- ❖ **Form CI – District Certification of Interim Report (must contain original signatures of the Board President and the District Superintendent or designee).** This form contains the Met/NOT Met and Yes/NO responses from the Criteria and Standards (C&S).

- ❖ **Form AI – Average Daily Attendance Detail**
 - The first column (A) reflects your LCFF ADA and is extracted from the Adopted Budget DAT file into this software.

 - The second column (B) will require you to input any updated ADA used for any budget transfers made to the LCFF calculations since the Adopted Budget and posted in your current operating budget. This will only be different from Column A if you adjusted your ADA estimates.

 - The third column (C) reflects your current projected P-2 ADA that you expect to report on this year's P-2 Attendance reports. This is not funded ADA. Input what you project to report on this year's P-2 Attendance reports.

 - The fourth column (D) should reflect the ADA the district is using to compute the LCFF projections for the current year. For non-declining districts, this is the same ADA as in Column C. For declining ADA districts, this column D is where you will enter your prior year guarantee ADA, s this is the ADA used in your LCFF projections.

- ❖ **Form 01I – General Fund Summary (Must be system generated using first period dates 7/1/2024 – 10/31/2024 and imported into the SACS Web System for processing).**
 - The first column (A) must reflect the Final Budget adopted by the Board and submitted to our office.

 - The second column (B) must reflect the “latest” Board–Approved operating budget and the Unaudited Actuals adjustments to the 2024-25 Adopted Beginning Balance in Object 9791. **For some district's column A & B will be the same.**

 - The third column (C) must reflect actual revenues received and expenditures paid as of the end of the report period, 7/1/24 – 10/31/24.
NOTE: Column C must agree with the data on a budget report writer (BDX110) generated from the system using the dates of 7/1/24 – 10/31/24.

 - The fourth column (D) is the District's projected totals for the fiscal year.
NOTE: Column D represents projections of all anticipated revenues and expenditures applicable to the 2024-25 fiscal year. Amounts reflected in column D represent the district's most current estimate of year-end for 2024-25. This column should not reflect the same estimates as used in Column B.

 - The fifth & sixth column (E & F) calculates automatically.

- ❖ **Other Funds** – the software will automatically extract and bring into the SACS Web System all district funds, including detailed object codes. Please submit the Other District Funds to us in the same manner as Fund 011. Please review these other funds forms carefully to ensure that you still have a positive ending fund balance for all funds.

- ❖ **Form CASH – Cash Flow** - Actual and projected amounts for the total combined General Fund. Districts **MUST** reconcile the monthly cash balances listed through October 31st on this form to the monthly Cash Balance report in QCC/QSS. **An alternate excel spreadsheet may be utilized in place of Form CASH.**

- ❖ **Form 01CSI - State Criteria and Standards** – The criteria and standards review consists of three sections: Criteria and Standards, Supplemental Information, and Additional Fiscal Indicators. Be sure to read the instructions for each standard and criterion carefully, because some only refer to unrestricted data for revenues/expenditures and deficit spending. For most sections, the data are extracted from the Supplemental forms, the 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals, and the 2024-25 Adopted Budget file. Each section compares the data to historical trends or state variance levels and determines a Met or Not Met status or a Yes or No status. **For each Not Met or No status, the district must provide a detailed written explanation of why it is not meeting that particular standard or variance level.** Your TRC will indicate a warning error if you have not completed each section requiring an explanation of a Not Met or No status. Some areas where data were extracted in the past are not unlocked for manual entry due to changes made necessary by the LCFF.

- ❖ **Form MYP –Multi-Year Projection** – covers fiscal years 2024-25 through 2026-27 and indicates the percent and amount of unrestricted reserves available in the ending fund balance as compared to your district’s state required reserve levels. LEAs are required to submit multiyear (current and two subsequent fiscal years) projections for their General Fund. LEAs may use their own multiyear projection format as long as it provides current and two subsequent fiscal years; separately projects unrestricted resources, restricted resources, and combined total resources; and shows the percent change between years. However, if Form MYPI is used, applicable data from Form MYPI will extract into the Criteria and Standards Review form (Form 01CSI), reducing the amount of data entry into Form 01CSI. ADA should match your LCFF ADA.

- ❖ **Form SEMAI – Special Education MOE** – is used to monitor an LEA’s MOE compliance. The 2024-25 Projected Totals are extracted from general ledger data. Use the Adjustments column to make adjustments to those amounts in order to reflect correct projected expenditures that are not yet recorded in the general ledger data. Enter your December unduplicated pupil count in fiscal year 2024-25 and use your prior years December unduplicated pupil count on the second tab for fiscal year 2023-24 Actuals (extracted from unaudited actuals). Section 3, Part A, columns A and B are automatically extracted from Section 1, Section 2, and the other two LEA worksheets, except for lines 3 and 5, which are calculated. Column C is calculated.

FIRST INTERIM CHECKLIST

DISTRICT: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ PHONE/EXT: _____

Form CI: Interim Report Certification Page (with original signature, with Met/Not Met & Yes/No Indicators

Positive Qualified Negative

Promoted SACS file through SACS Web System

Date promoted in SACS: _____ Official Non-Official

FCMAT LCFF Calculation completed by district. Electronic copy sent to Matthew Hughes at mahughes@kern.org.

Technical Review Checklist with no fatal errors

Form AI: Average Daily Attendance

Form CASH or excel spreadsheet (reconciled with actuals through October 31st)

Form MYPI: Multiyear Projections using base year 2024-25 and projections for 2025-26 and 2026-27

Detailed Assumptions, or copies of documentation/PowerPoint presentations that will assist us in our review of projected budget. (See MYP assumptions attached)

Form 01I: General Fund (Restricted, Unrestricted and Combined)

Forms 09I – 71I: All other District Funds and accounts, as applicable.

Form 01CSI: Criteria and Standards, with all sections completed in full, with explanations for all required conditions. Be sure to complete the salary and benefits negotiation sections fully, even if not yet settled.

SEMAI: District's should review this carefully to see if you are meeting your maintenance of effort requirement.

ALL OF THE ABOVE ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR RECEIPT NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 16, 2024 ATTENTION:

District Advisory Services
c/o Matthew Hughes – 5th floor
1300 17th St - City Centre
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Please include this completed form as a cover for your submission.