

APPENDIX C: SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (SNSP)

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Create a mechanism by which the payment to a private school for an individual pupil participating in the SNSP could be adjusted, based on actual costs (beginning with payments for the 2019-20 school year):

Beginning with FY19, a private school would have the option to submit a financial statement showing the actual costs incurred by the school to provide required services to each child with a disability at the end of each school year for which a private school receives scholarship payments for that child. If submitted, require that the financial statement include documentation of each expense, and require the Department to provide the financial statement to the pupil's district of residence. [Act 59 does not provide authority for either the Department or the resident school district to verify or deny the expenditures included on the financial statement.]

For a private school that **submitted** a financial statement to the Department in the prior year: in the second year (and subsequent years) of a pupil's participation in the program, the payment would be the greater of the payment amount under current law (under the indexing mechanism), or the actual costs incurred by the private school in the prior year to implement the child's most recent IEP or services plan, as modified by agreement between the private school and the child's parent, and related services agreed to by the private school and the child's parent that are not included in the child's IEP or services plan.

1. The cost of payments up to 150 percent of the per pupil payment in the current year would be funded through a reduction in the general aid that is otherwise paid to each pupil's district of residence, offset for the district with an equal revenue limit adjustment.
2. If the cost exceeds 150 percent of the per pupil amount, the private school would be reimbursed for 90 percent of the costs above that amount with state GPR (no corresponding aid reduction to the pupil's district of residence would occur for this amount, so the state's general fund would be fully impacted by these new aid payments to the private school).

For a private school that **did not submit** a financial statement to the Department in the prior year: the payment amount would be equal to the payment under current law (per the indexing method for per pupil payments).