

MISSISSIPPI ADEQUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM (MAEP)

What is MAEP?

The formula established by the Legislature to provide adequate operation funding levels for each school district to meet the accountability scale of “Successful” as established by the State Board of Education regardless of the school district’s geographic location. (37-151-7)

What is the purpose of MAEP?

Ensure that every Mississippi student is afforded an adequate educational opportunity regardless of where he/she lives. In order to accomplish this, the system must:

- Provide equity to districts by recognizing differences in local resources
- Provide a level of resources necessary for an adequate education

What are the components of the formula?

- $(\text{Average Daily Attendance} + \text{High Growth}) \times \text{Base Student Cost} + \text{At-Risk Allowance} - \text{Local Contribution} + \text{Hold Harmless Guarantee} = \text{MAEP Base Formula Allocation}$
- $\text{MAEP Base Formula Allocation} + \text{Add-On Programs} = \text{Total MAEP Program}$

How is the Base Student Cost calculated?

Districts evaluated to be successful **and** efficient are selected for calculating the base student cost amount. To be evaluated as efficient, districts must pass a screen in four predetermined areas of school operations.

- Successful – the accountability rating defined by the State Board of Education using current statistically relevant state assessment data.
- Efficient – an average cost determined for the following areas of school operations; only successful districts who meet the efficiency screens are selected for input into the calculation:
 1. Instruction – teachers per 1,000 students
 2. Administration – administrator to staff ratio
 3. Maintenance and Operations
 - Spending per 100,000 square feet; and
 - Maintenance staff per 100,000 square feet
 4. Ancillary – Librarians and Counselors per 1,000 students
- The average cost of the four areas are added together to obtain the base student cost amount.

How often is the Base Student Cost calculated?

To maintain stability for appropriation and budgeting purposes, it is recalculated every four years. In the interim years, an inflationary component is used to adjust the cost.

What are the Add On Programs?

The following programs are specified as additional programs and have an additional cost component calculated for inclusion in the MAEP formula:

- Alternative Education programs
- Career and Technical Education programs
- Gifted Education programs
- Special Education programs
- Transportation