



Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

## *Safety Net Committee Support*

1. **Purpose:**

The purpose of this appropriation is to provide additional full-time equivalent (FTE) staff to support the work of the Safety Net Committee and to provide training and support to districts applying for Safety Net awards.

2. **Description of services provided:**

Regional trainings, unlimited support to applicants (phone, email, zoom), reviews of applications submitted by the LEAs, and administrative support to the Special Education Oversight Committee.

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

RCW 28A.150.392 requires that schools must demonstrate need for special education funding beyond the amounts provided through the special education funding formula under RCW 28A.150.390.

### **Beneficiaries in the 2022–23 School Year:**

<b>Number of School Districts:</b>	131 school districts, 5 charter schools, 2 state schools, 1 Educational Service Agency
<b>Number of Schools:</b>	Awards not tracked at the school level.
<b>Number of Students:</b>	4,832 High Need Individual applications funded (4,956 requested)
<b>Number of Educators:</b>	N/A
<b>Other:</b>	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	\$481,000	\$479,485
2022	\$481,000	\$255,151
2021	\$478,000	\$234,897
2020	\$481,000	\$207,350
2019	\$256,000	\$186,836

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

Fiscal Year	Number of LEAs	Number of Students	Number of Schools
FY23	139	4,832	N/A
FY22	132	3,862	N/A
FY21	118	3,152	N/A
FY20	130	4,087	N/A

## 7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

N/A

## 8. **Program evaluation or evaluation of major findings:**

An application platform will help improve the application for LEAs and OSPI staff. This platform will be launched in the 2023–24 school year.

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

Safety Net award determinations are to be distributed to districts in August of each year. To provide districts ample opportunity to apply, there is one initial round for high need individual students with an opportunity for updates and one application round for community impact. Thus, the bulk of the application review work falls in a compressed timeframe of three or four months, rather than spread over the calendar year. This also makes it difficult for LEAs who do not receive the funding until August when many are not available.

Additionally, lack of an application platform makes it more difficult for LEAs to submit their Safety Net applications.



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10. **Future opportunities:**

During the 2022–23 school year, staff worked with a contractor to develop an application platform. This platform should alleviate some of the issues that LEA staff have when submitting applications.

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

\$481,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$481,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for additional full-time equivalent staff to support the work of the Safety Net committee and to provide training and support to districts applying for Safety Net awards.

12. **Other relevant information:**

OSPI Special Education leadership and staff review feedback from the safety net surveys and other input from committee members and school and district partners to explore ways to improve application and approval processes.

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

[preliminaryfy23state-fundedprovisograntawardsupdated-42823.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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