

# Safety Net Training

2022–23



Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**



**Vision**

*All students prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement.*

**Mission**

Transform K–12 education to a system that is centered on closing opportunity gaps and is characterized by high expectations for all students and educators. We achieve this by developing equity-based policies and supports that empower educators, families, and communities.

**Values**

- Ensuring Equity
- Collaboration and Service
- Achieving Excellence through Continuous Improvement
- Focus on the Whole Child



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# Equity Statement

Each student, family, and community possesses strengths and cultural knowledge that benefits their peers, educators, and schools.

Ensuring educational equity:

- Goes beyond equality; it requires education leaders to examine the ways current policies and practices result in disparate outcomes for our students of color, students living in poverty, students receiving special education and English Learner services, students who identify as LGBTQ+, and highly mobile student populations.
- Requires education leaders to develop an understanding of historical contexts; engage students, families, and community representatives as partners in decision-making; and actively dismantle systemic barriers, replacing them with policies and practices that ensure all students have access to the instruction and support they need to succeed in our schools.



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# Land Acknowledgement



Text 907-312-5085 to  
identify Tribal lands  
on which you are  
currently located



I acknowledge the pain and trauma of over 400 years of racism in the United States.

I stand with our communities of color, especially those who identify as and/or are categorized as African-American. I also acknowledge the intersectionality of those who identify both as persons of color and individuals with disabilities.

I commit to centering my work to dismantle systemic racism and disrupt ableist structures.

# What is Safety Net?

- Funding available to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that show need for additional special education funding.
- Two types of Safety Net funding:
  - High-Need Individual – Based on individual student need.
  - Community Impact – An LEA factor that is beyond the control of the LEA.



# Important Dates

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<b>Deadline for Receipt of Application at OSPI</b>	<b>Type of Application</b>	<b>Oversight Committee Meeting Date</b>	<b>Meeting Location</b>
<b>March 10, 2023</b>	High-Need Individuals (HNI)	June 21–22, 2023	<a href="#">Zoom</a>
<b>May 12, 2023</b>	HNI (Updates Only) and Community Impact (CI)	June 21–22, 2023	<a href="#">Zoom</a>
	Final Verification & Award Meeting	August 10, 2023	<a href="#">Zoom</a>



# May 12 Deadline

- **Only** intended for:
  - Community Impact applications
  - High-Need Individual applications for:
    - Students enrolling in the LEA after the March 10, 2023 submission deadline.
    - Students with a significant change in services or placement.
    - Students accessing Extended School Year (ESY) when the ESY decision is made after the March 10, 2023 submission date.



# Bulletin and Forms

- [Posted on the Safety Net website.](#)
- Available:
  - Bulletin (B075)
  - Worksheet C
  - Certification and Individuals Summary
  - Community Impact
  - Worksheet A
- Not Available:
  - Transportation Cost Calculator (will be available mid-February)
- [Sign up for GovDelivery Safety Net updates](#)

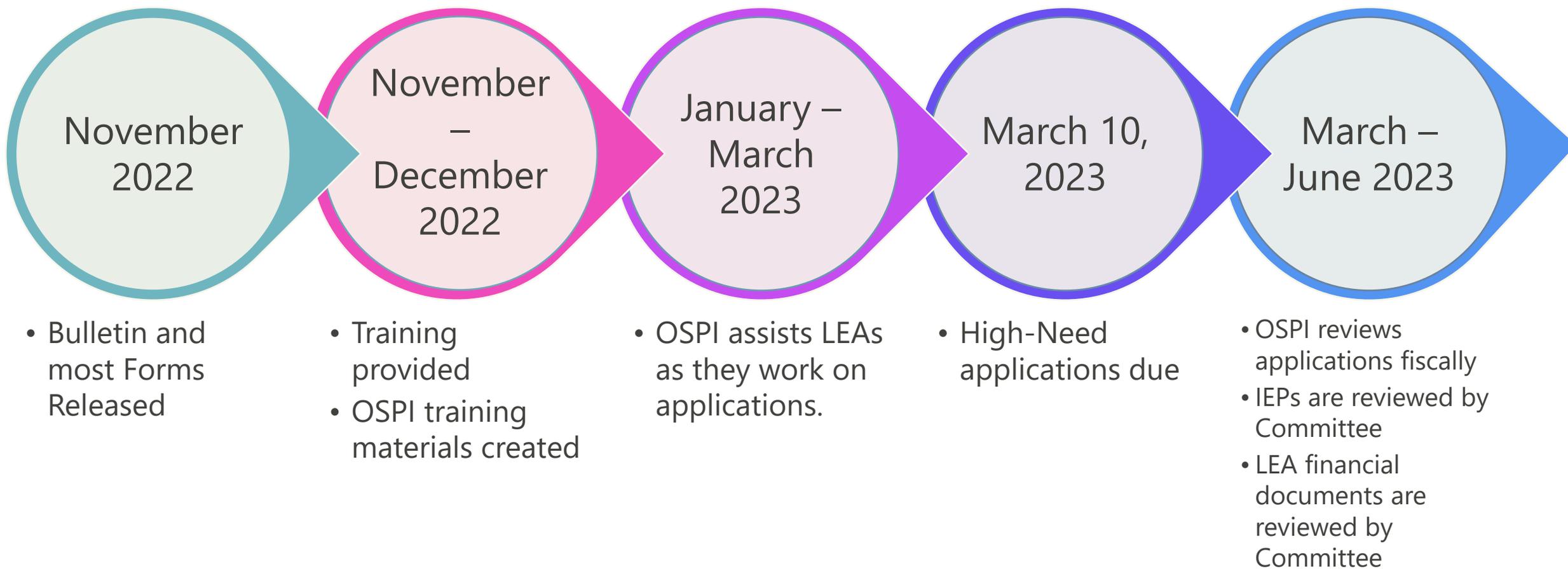


# New this year!

- Threshold: \$37,599
- Additional training opportunities have been announced at [Applying for Safety Net Funding | OSPI \(www.k12.wa.us\)](https://www.k12.wa.us).
- OSPI has contracted with REI to develop a Safety Net platform that will be rolled out for the 2023-24 application year.



# Safety Net Timeline



# Safety Net Timeline



May 12,  
2023

- Community Impact applications due
- High-Need individual updates due

June 2023

- Committee meets and votes on conditional awards (21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>)
- OSPI sends letters to applicants detailing conditional award and additional information needed to complete final verification.

July 2023

- Reconsideration window (20 days from date of letter)
- Applicants submit final verification data
- OSPI uses applicant data to verify capacity

August  
2023

- Committee meets to make final award recommendations (10<sup>th</sup>)
- State/Federal split is calculated once total award amounts are known
- Letters go out to applicants detailing final award

September  
2023

- Survey goes out to applicants
- Work begins on application for 23-24



# Certification

- When submitting a Safety Net application, the LEA certifies that they understand that:
  - Costs attributable to LEA philosophy, service delivery choice, or accounting practice are not a legitimate basis for safety net funding.
  - Funding is not an entitlement, is subject to adjustment and recovery, and may not be available in future years.
  - The costs associated with educating a high-need student with a disability, are only those costs associated with providing direct special education and related services.
  - The applicant LEA's program is operated in a reasonably efficient manner.



# Certification

- The applicant must be making a reasonable effort to provide appropriate services for students in need of special education and exhaust all available state and federal funds.
- Federal Safety Net funding cannot be used for costs that would otherwise be covered by Medicaid.
- The LEA cannot have any unresolved audit issues related to special education.



# Other Interested Parties

- Safety net applications are also subject to:
  - whistleblower requests
  - audit by the State Auditors Office
  - public disclosure requests
  - Program Review verification
  - Community Complaint verification.



# Worksheet A

- Submitted with both High-Need Individuals and Community Impact applications.
- The preparer enters data in the green highlighted cells, if applicable.
- The Worksheet compares Special Education expenditures and revenues.
- If Special Education expenditures exceed revenues, the applicant will demonstrate need for a Safety Net award.
- ARP funds will be included – may impact capacity



# High-Need Individuals: Worksheet C

- Used to cost out services in the IEP
- Relies on quantification of services in the IEP
- Data needed to complete:
  - Number of days in the school year
  - Student demographic data (birthdate, disability, grade, eval and IEP dates)
  - Teacher base salary and November caseload information
  - Classified staff hourly rates
  - Base salary and contract hours for related service providers
  - Hourly rate for contracted staff
  - Minutes per week (from IEP) student is served by staff (direct service minutes only)



# High-Need Individuals: Medicaid

- If your LEA bills for Medicaid and student is Medicaid eligible:
  - Complete the Medicaid Reimbursement Calculator within the Worksheet C.
  - If the student is receiving services from a provider who is not eligible, complete the Medicaid Provider Eligibility Verification form that will be posted on the Safety Net website.
- If your LEA does not bill for Medicaid and student is Medicaid eligible:
  - Per WAC 392-140-60120 there will be an adjustment for LEAs not billing for Medicaid.



# High-Need Individuals: Unallowable Costs

- The following are costs that are not eligible for Safety Net funding. This list is not exhaustive.
  - Construction costs
  - Costs not coded to a special education program (21, 23, 24, 26, 29)
  - Consultant costs (not direct services to the student)
  - Teacher training
  - Provider travel to and from work (bus paras traveling with student are allowable)



# High-Need Individuals: IEP Reviews

- If your LEA has had a WISM review that included a file review in the past two years or the current year (20-21, 21-22, or 22-23):
  - Safety Net review will not include IEP review.
- If your LEA has not had a WISM review in the past two years:
  - Sample of IEPs from your current submission will be selected for review.
- IEPs in effect for the school year **must** be submitted for **all applications**.
- Costs associated with each application are reviewed for all applications.



# High-Need Individuals: IEP Reviews

- IEP reviews will focus on the following areas of the current IEP developed by a team of required members:
  - Measurable Annual Goals (MAGs)
  - Summary of Service Matrix
  - Signed Emergency Response Protocols (ERP)
  - Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP)
  - Overall transition components, including Courses of Study and Postsecondary Goals, as well as the High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP).



# High-Need Individuals: Sampling Method

- Based on the number of applications submitted.
- 40% of applications submitted will be reviewed, if applicant submits at least 5 applications.
- If 5 or fewer applications are submitted, all applications will include an IEP review.



# High-Need Individuals: Prorating

- If an IEP does not meet requirements, the application will be prorated.
- For each area identified, the application will be prorated by 15%.
  - 1 area: 85%
  - 2 areas: 70%
  - 3 areas: 55%
- If four or more areas are identified, the application will not receive any funding.



# High-Need Individuals: What to Include

- Worksheet A and supporting documents
  - Expenditure reports
  - Reconciliation, if needed (within Worksheet A)
  - Exception reports (October – March)
- Worksheet C and supporting documents
  - IEPs in effect for the school year
    - HSBPs should be submitted for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and up. Proration if not submitted or if blank document is submitted, otherwise TA notes.
  - Transportation calculator, if applicable
  - POs, contracts, and invoices
  - Medicaid forms for providers who are not eligible to bill
  - Caseload reports
- Certification and Individuals Summary
- Calendars – for your LEA and any out of LEA placement (1 copy)



# High-Need Individuals: May 12 Deadline

- For updates to applications submit:
  - Updated Worksheet Cs
  - The student's new IEP or IEP amendment
  - Any POs, contracts or invoices applicable to the adjustment
- For a student not included in March submission:
  - See list on previous slide
- An updated Certification and Individuals Summary. Include all applications submitted for the school year. Highlight applications with changes.



# Community Impact

- Applications are due May 12.
- LEAs above the 13.5% funding index with identified and quantifiable factor(s) beyond the control of the LEA
  - Disproportional and extraordinary costs
- Community Impact applications cannot include students for whom the LEA is receiving state special education funding (e.g., LEAs below the 13.5% cap).
- All state funding (Revenue 4121).



# Community Impact: 1. Identify Factor

- Make your assertion.
- Identify the demographic, environmental, sociological or other factor(s) that supports the assertion that your LEA is financially impacted by the presence of such factor.
- Example:
  - The LEA is disproportionately impacted with students eligible for special education who are placed in foster care facilities/homes within the boundaries of the LEA.

# Community Impact: 2. Present Data

- Present student enrollment data, including SSID numbers, attributed to the factor.
- Provide appropriate comparisons to surrounding LEAs or LEAs of like size throughout the region or state, and statewide data.
- Data included in application may include:
  - LEA enrollment
  - Special education enrollment (K–21)
  - Special education percentage
  - Number of students in foster care receiving special education services
  - Number of students in foster care receiving special education services above what you would anticipate



# Community Impact: 3. Quantify

Quantify the extent to which the identified factor(s) in Step One creates an extraordinary documentable fiscal impact upon the LEA's state funded Special Education Program.

# Community Impact: 3. Quantification

- There is now a cost calculation worksheet for Community Impact.
- There are different tabs for common factors.
- Complete the green highlighted cells. Other cells will auto calculate.
- You can paste this table into your application.
- Use the 1191SE Apportionment report for April found here:  
<https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/school-apportionment/safs-report-api>



# Community Impact

- Successful applicants demonstrated capacity and identified and quantified a specific factor that created a disproportional representation of students with disabilities receiving special education services causing an adverse fiscal impact.
- Some examples – Military Bases, group homes, foster care, residential facilities.



# What to Include: Community Impact

- Worksheet A and supporting documents
  - Expenditure reports (April)
  - Reconciliation, if needed (within Worksheet A)
  - Exception reports (October – April)
- Community Impact Application
- Certification



# How to Submit

- Through secure file transfer protocol site.
- Both High-Need Individual and Community Impact applications should be submitted via SFTP site.
- Once files are transferred, complete the Application Submission Form (<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/47b61006c4db4296938acba7f9651cae>)
- Contact [safety.net@k12.wa.us](mailto:safety.net@k12.wa.us) if you need an accommodation to this submission method.



# After Submission

- Committee members are assigned IEPs or Worksheet As for review
- Committee members review Community Impact applications
- OSPI staff review costs submitted on High Need and Community Impact applications
- OSPI staff may follow-up with applicants
- Summary documents are prepared for the Committee meeting



# June Conditional Award Meeting

- Committee members review summary documents and vote on conditional awards
- After the meeting OSPI sends conditional award letter
  - Details what is needed for final award
  - Documentation of adjustments will be uploaded to SFTP



# Verifying Final Awards

- In July LEAs submit:
  - expenditure reports through July
  - ESY certification, if applicable
  - requests for review and reconsideration, if applicable
- Final Worksheet A is completed
- Committee members review reconsiderations, if applicable
- Adjustments are made based on ESY, student exit data, and reconsiderations
- Summary documents are prepared for final award meeting



# Requests for Review and Reconsideration

- Window for requests is 20 days from the date of the conditional award letter
- Submit in writing (email OK, use SFTP for secure student info)
- See WAC 392-140-656 for more details  
(<https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=392-140-656>)



# August Final Award Meeting

- Committee members review summary documents and vote on final awards
- The state/federal split is determined at the district level
- OSPI prepares final award notifications

# State and Federal Funds

- The State/Federal split is determined after final awards are made
- State funds are distributed through apportionment
  
- Federal funds require submission of a budget in iGrants
- Once approved in iGrants, LEAs need to JV expenditures to Safety Net and claim the funds through the grant claiming system.



# Training Materials

- We are currently working on additional training materials.
- Plan to have an additional Zoom training hosted by OSPI.
- If you would like to set up time for a one-on-one training with your LEA contact [safety.net@k12.wa.us](mailto:safety.net@k12.wa.us) to request.



# Application Platform

- We are working with REI to create an application platform for Safety Net
- We hope to start testing in late spring/early summer 2023

# Contact Us!

- Amber O'Donnell, Jess Inocencio, Sarah Kahne
  - Email: [safety.net@k12.wa.us](mailto:safety.net@k12.wa.us)
  - Phone: 360-725-6075



# Questions?



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