IDEA Annual Plan

Special Education Annual Plan/Part B Flow-Through Application and Report

School Year 2026-2027

April 9, 2026

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Annual Plan

- Required by law
- Demonstrates eligibility
- Submitted to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)
- Outlines planned use of IDEA grant funding
- https://www.doe.virginia.gov/programs-services/special-education/grants-funding

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Administration and Governance

- The IDEA Annual Plan is governed by the *Code of Virginia,* 8VAC20-81-230(D)
- Ensures rights and protections are given to children with disabilities, including children in private schools
- Prior to being submitted to VDOE, the plan must be:
  - Reviewed with the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD)
  - Approved by the Fairfax County School Board
  - Certified by the Division Superintendent

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Special Education Funding

- On January 22, 2026, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) released a FY 2027 Proposed Budget that includes $862.2 million for Special Education, or 20.9% of the $4.1 billion School Operating Fund budget
- The IDEA Annual Plan:
  - Demonstrates eligibility for IDEA Part B grant funding totaling approximately $41.0 million
  - Describes planned use of the grant funding

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Application for IDEA Part B Federal Funds

- Projected to provide FCPS **$41.0 million**
- Serves as a formal agreement between the FCPS School Board and VDOE
- Funds must be used as agreed



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IDEA Part B Awards

	Actual Awards					Projected Award*
IDEA Part B Award	FY 2022 2021-2022	FY 2023 2022-2023	FY 2024 2023-2024	FY 2025 2024-2025	FY 2026 2025-2026	FY 2027 2026-2027
Grant Period	*07/01/2021 - 09/30/2023*	*07/01/2022 - 09/30/2024*	*07/01/2023 - 09/30/2025*	*07/01/2024 - 09/30/2026*	*07/01/2025 - 09/30/2027*	*07/01/2026 - 09/30/2028*
Section 611	$ 37,845,107	$ 39,395,434	$ 40,968,333	$ 40,531,682	$ 40,100,936	$ 40,100,936
Section 619 (Preschool)	842,851	894,472	915,096	914,844	913,666	913,666
Total Part B Awards	**$ 38,687,958**	**$ 40,289,906**	**$ 41,883,429**	**$ 41,446,526**	**$ 41,014,602**	**$ 41,014,602**
Year-Over-Year Change	*$ 437,258*	*$ 1,601,948*	*$ 1,593,523*	*$ (436,903)*	*$ (431,924)*	*$ -*
Year-Over-Year % Change	*1.1%*	*4.1%*	*4.0%*	*-1.0%*	*-1.0%*	*0.0%*

** The 2026--2027 projection assumes funding for FY 2027 will be the same as the actual awards received for FY 2026. Adjustments are made once actual awards are known.*

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Required Components

The application includes the following required components:

- Superintendent's Certification
- Policy Statements
- Statement of Assurances, including *General Education Provisions Act* (GEPA) statements
- Special Education in Local and Regional Jails
- The Report on the Implementation of the **2024-2025** Plan (the **Prior Year's Plan**)
- Maintenance of Effort Eligibility
- Coordinated Early Intervening Services and Proportionate Set-Aside
- The Application for Use of Federal Funds for Sections 611 and 619

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Policy Statements

FCPS assures that its policies, procedures, and programs comply with:

- Federal IDEA regulations
- VDOE established policies and procedures for IDEA compliance

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Statement of Assurances

- IDEA eligibility includes FCPS' ability to certify assurances

- Assurances include items such as responsibility for:
  - Controlling grant funds
  - Restricting the use of funding to acceptable activities under IDEA
  - Maintaining required documentation
  - Maintaining level of effort from state and local funding

Interagency Agreement

- FCPS provides an instructional school program at the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC)
- FCPS also maintains an Interagency Agreement with the sheriff, who operates the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center (ADC)
- The agreement outlines responsibilities for the provision of compulsory special education services to eligible, school-aged inmates at the ADC

The Report on the Implementation of the Prior Year's Plan

Flow-through funds for **School Year (SY) 2024-2025** were used to support activities related to two major goals for students with disabilities:

1) Provide appropriate identification, evaluation, therapeutic and instructional services

1) Provide Child Find, screening, and evaluation services for students ages 2-5

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The Report on the Implementation of the Prior Year's Plan

- **For School Year 2024-2025, IDEA Part B awards funded 302.6 full-time equivalent positions (FTEs)**
- **The Section 611 (K-12) award funded 296.6 FTEs, including:**
  - Special Education Teachers, 226.0 FTEs
  - Special Education Instructional Assistants, 14.0 FTEs
  - Psychologists, 2.0 FTEs
  - Instructional Specialists, 5.0 FTEs
  - Special Education Technical Specialists (Data Mgmt.), 4.0 FTEs
  - Special Education Business Specialist, 2.0 FTE
  - Program/Administrative Assistant, 1.0 FTE
  - Coordinated Early Intervening Services, 42.6 FTEs
- **The Section 619 (Preschool) award funded 6.0 FTEs, including:**
  - Senior Manager, 1.0 FTE
  - Instructional Specialists, 2.0 FTEs
  - Office Assistants, 3.0 FTEs (1.0 FTE per Early Childhood Assessment/Child Find Site)

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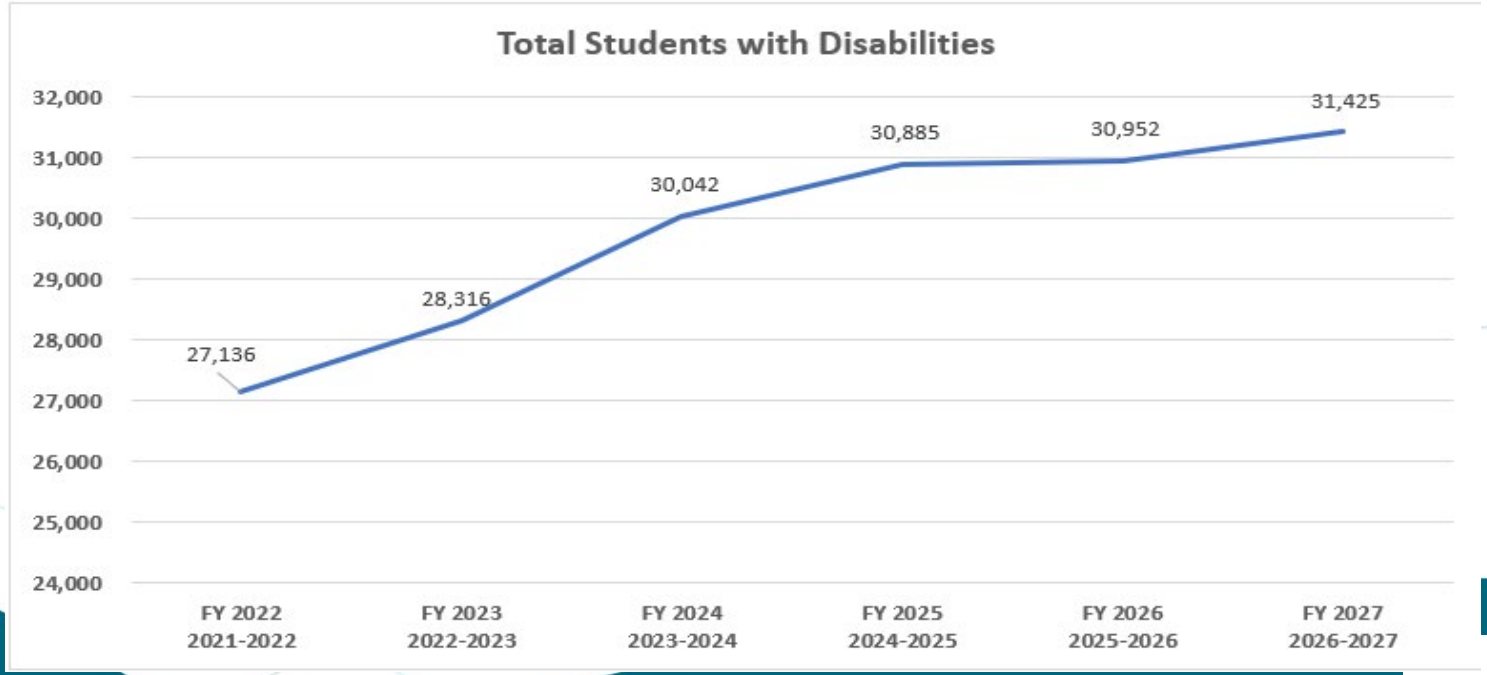
Services and Enrollment Trend

Number of Services Provided and Number of Students with Disabilities						
Five-Year Trends	**FY 2022 2021-2022 Actuals**	**FY 2023 2022-2023 Actuals**	**FY 2024 2023-2024 Actual**	**FY 2025 2024-2025 Actual**	**FY 2026 2025-2026 Actual**	**FY 2027 2026-2027 Projected**
Number of Services Provided	**46,417**	**48,305**	**50,480**	**52,006**	**52,530**	**52,580**
Number of Students with Disabilities	**27,136**	**28,316**	**30,042**	**30,885**	**30,952**	**31,425**
FCPS Enrolled Students with Disabilities	***26,711***	***27,940***	***29,689***	***30,570***	***30,628***	***31,168***
Contracted Services, Private Schools, and Home-Schooled	***425***	***376***	***353***	***315***	***324***	***257***



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Report on the Implementation of the Prior Year's Plan

SY 2024-2025 Screened 2,562 preschoolers for suspected disabilities (initial evaluations), a Year-over-Year Decrease of 242 screenings, or -8.6%

- SY 2023-2024: 2,804, a Year-over-Year Increase of 275, or 10.9%
- SY 2022-2023: 2,529

SY 2024-2025 Completed 6,284 evaluations of preschool-age children, a Year-over-Year Decrease of 337 evaluations, or -5.1%

- SY 2023-2024: 6,621, a Year-over-Year Increase of 470 evaluations, or 7.6%
- SY 2022-2023: 6,151

SY 2024-2025 Determined 2,052 preschool-age students found eligible for special education services, a Year-over-Year Decrease of 124, or 5.7% fewer students found eligible

- SY 2023-2024: 2,176 found eligible for special education services, a Year-over-Year Increase of 51, or 2.4% more students found eligible
- SY 2022-2023: 2,125

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Report on the Implementation of the Prior Year's Plan (Continued)

SY 2024-2025 Completed 16,580 Psychological Evaluations, a Year-over-Year Increase of 446 evaluations, or 2.8 percent

- SY 2023-2024: 16,134 Psychological Evaluations, a Year-over-Year Increase of 1,421 evaluations, or 9.7 percent
- SY 2022-2023: 14,713

SY 2024-2025 Completed 6,918 School Social Work Sociocultural Assessments, a Year-over-Year Decrease of 194 assessments, or -2.7%

- SY 2023-2024: 7,112, a Year-over-Year Increase of 447 assessments, or 6.7%
- SY 2022-2023: 6,665

SY 2024-2025 Completed 4,057 Speech and Language Evaluations, a Year-over-Year Decrease of 69 evaluations, or 1.7%

- SY 2023-2024: 4,126, a Year-over-Year Increase of 168 evaluations, or 4.2%
- SY 2022-2023: 3,958

MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT (MOE)

- State and local contributions toward special education that **equal or exceed** prior year funding result in successful achievement of required maintenance of effort (MOE).

- FCPS consistently meets its special education MOE requirements.



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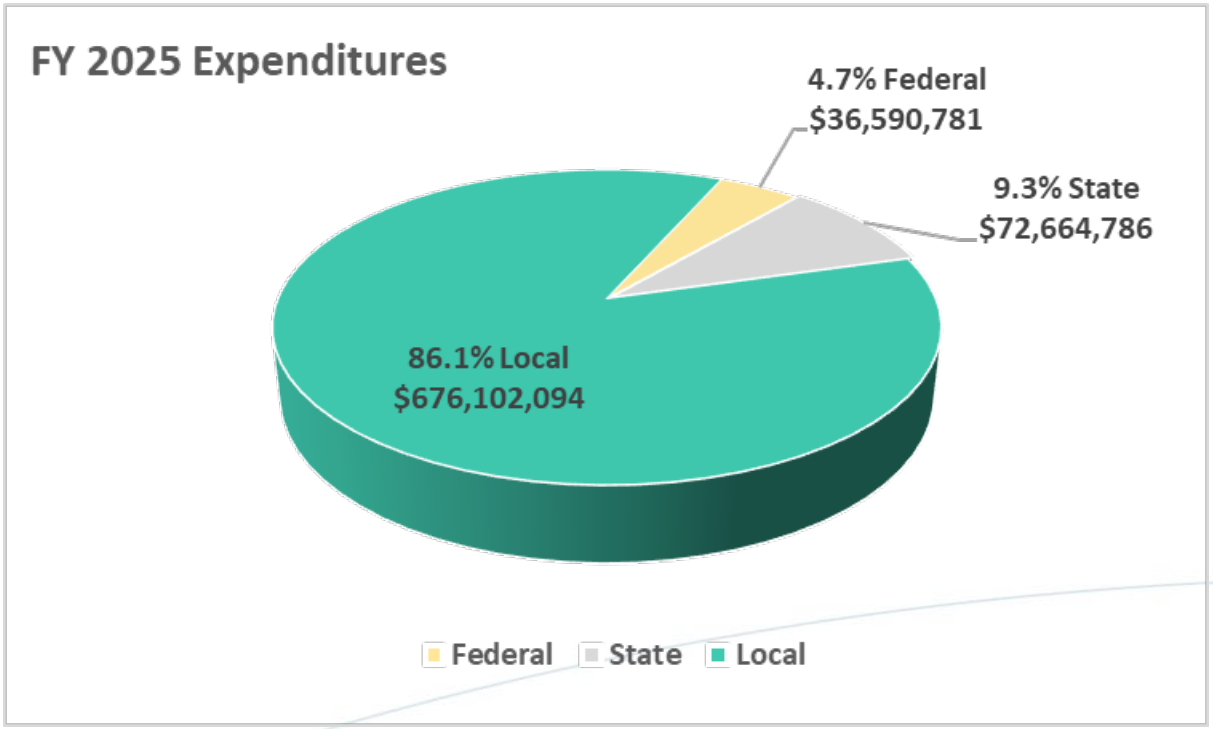
SY 2024-2025 Special Education Expenditures by Funding Source

Total FY 2025 Special Education Costs: $785,357,661



Source: FCPS FY 2025 Annual School Report

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Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS)

- The 2026-2027 IDEA Annual Plan includes a voluntary set-aside of $6.2 million for CEIS with the intention to prevent the over-identification of student groups in the areas of special education and discipline.
- CEIS supports students **not** identified as needing special education or related services; however, require Tier 2 or Tier 3 interventions to be successful with the general education curriculum.
- FCPS may set-aside a maximum of 15 percent for CEIS, which is the $6.2 million allocated in the 2026-2027 plan.



CEIS Allowable Activities

- Tier 2 and Tier 3 evidence-based practices and programs (EBPs), provided to general education students to address the areas of focus with an emphasis on the at-risk groups.
  - Services that are state or federally mandated are **not** allowable expenses through CEIS.

- Professional Learning (to include coaching) that enables staff to implement the above mentioned EBPs with fidelity.
  - Professional learning must be targeted to the schools that are contributing to the overidentification of special education and/or discipline.
  - Divisionwide professional learnings are **not** allowable expenses through CEIS.

Proportionate Set-Aside (PSA)

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must expend some funds on services for parentally-placed private school children with disabilities enrolled in private schools located in the LEA's jurisdiction.

- VDOE provides the formula used to calculate the Special Education Proportionate Set-Aside (PSA).

- FCPS' PSA requirement totals $0.5 million.

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2026-2027 IDEA Budget Summary

IDEA Part B Section	CEIS (@ 15% max)	Proportionate Set-Aside	Special Education	Total Projected Projected Award Amounts
611	$ 6,152,190.30	$ 490,500.35	$ 33,458,245.35	$ 40,100,936.00
619 (Preschool)	-	26,072.00	887,594.00	913,666.00
Totals	$ 6,152,190.30	$ 516,572.35	$ 34,345,839.35	$ 41,014,602.00

$ 34,862,411.70

Special Education including PSA

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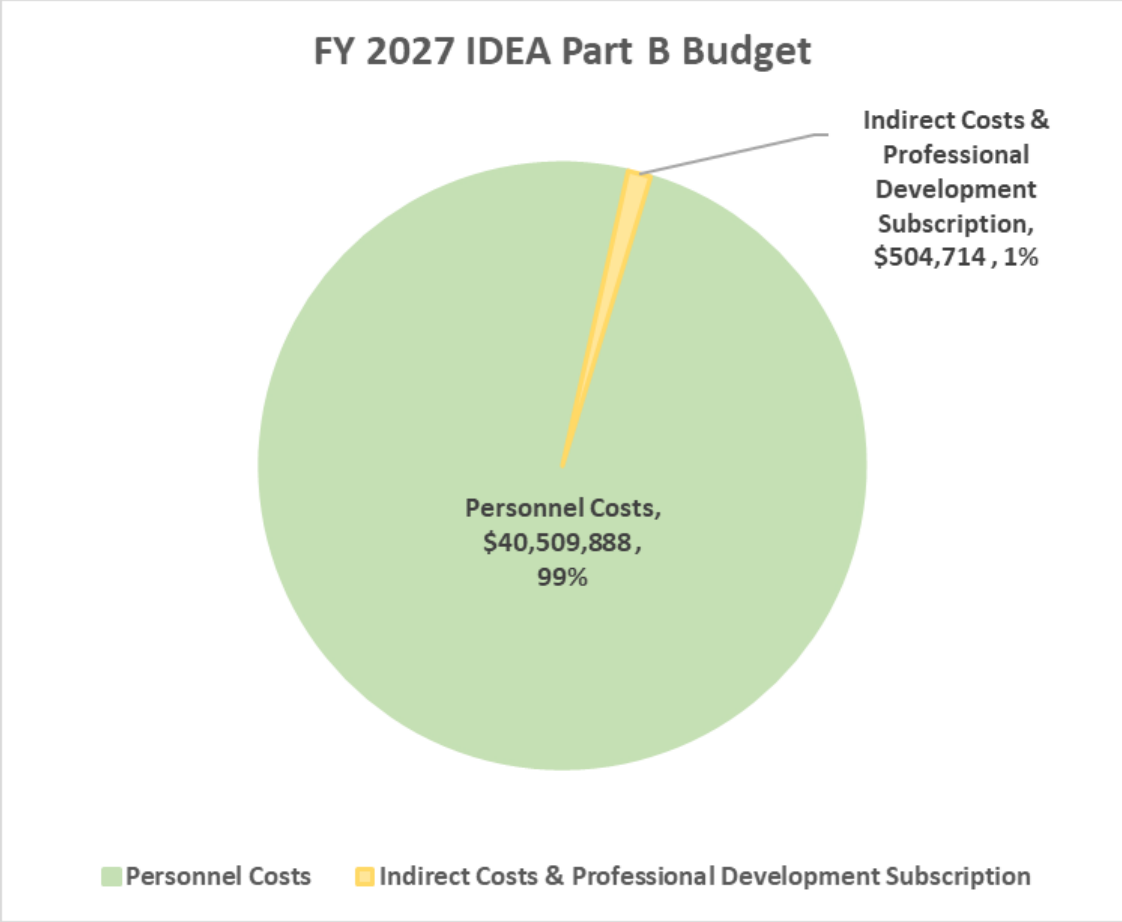
2026-2027 IDEA Budget Summary



- Most of FCPS' IDEA funding (99%) goes towards personnel costs that support special education services (PreK-12) and Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS), which provides interventions for general education students.
- VDOE allows FCPS to recoup indirect costs (administrative/ overhead) at a current rate of 1.2%.
- An allocation of $24,500 is budgeted for a professional development subscription fee.

2026-2027 Annual Plan Timeline for Submission

March 11	• Reviewed by ACSD
April 09	• School Board Review
April 23	• School Board Action
May 08	• Due Electronically to VDOE

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