



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | May 29, 2025  
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## FSF Formula Changes Had Small Impact on School Budgets

[Fair Student Funding](#) is the largest allocation of funding a public school receives. On average, in Fiscal Year 2024, [57% of a school's budget](#) was made up of [Fair Student Funding \(FSF\)](#). In the 2023–2024 school year, two major changes were made to the underlying formula. Two new weights were introduced that factored in the needs of students in temporary housing (STH) and students in schools that were identified as needing more support, also known as “concentrated need.”

IBO’s [analysis](#) considers how these FSF formula changes affected school budgets. On average, the students in temporary housing weight increased school budgets by \$32,000, or \$78 per pupil.

Funding provided through the new concentrated need weight increased the budgets of 304 schools by \$95,000, on average. For many schools, this additional funding would have been enough to make significant investments. However, IBO found that the changes in funding were small on a per-pupil basis.

Overall, the size of the per-pupil investment suggests there is unlikely to be an observable systemwide impact on the outcomes of STH students and students in schools with higher concentrations of high-need students. In addition, because schools’ eligibility for any concentrated need weight may change significantly year over year, this weight may introduce additional instability in school budgets.

An explainer breaking down the Fair Student Funding formula can be found [here](#).



