

Overview of Unemployment Reimbursement Aid

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- \$135,000,000 to support the cost of new qualifying summer-term hourly workers receiving unemployment benefits.
 - The legislation took effect on May 28, 2023, with staff receiving benefits summer of 2023
 - The funds can be used until June 30, 2027, or until the funds are exhausted
 - The ability of eligible staff to collect summer-term unemployment benefits continues even after aid funds are exhausted
 - Districts are not able to levy for these qualifying costs and all LEA's are not able to code costs to reimbursable funding areas while receiving unemployment reimbursement aid
 - Districts have to pay the majority of annual UI costs in November, but the process that relies on final data results in the final disbursement of the UI-specific funds until January of the next fiscal year (14 months later).

Unemployment Expense Survey Results (1)

LEA Type	# of Eligible LEAs	Responses	Response Rate	Expenditures	Eligible Staff*
School Districts	329	325	99%	\$37,537,195	16,325
Charter	181	125	69%	\$797,368	675
Intermediates	4	4	100%	\$1,078,082	411
Cooperatives	39	29	74%	\$710,822	455
TOTAL	553	483		\$40,123,467	17,866

^{*}Number of staff receiving any amount of unemployment benefit as reported by LEA's Survey results collected October/November 2023 – not validated by MDE

Unemployment Expense Survey Results (3)

Ten Largest District Submissions by Cost

District #	District Name	Total Expense	Eligible Staff	% of Submitted Total
625	ST. PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$2,065,509	748	5.1%
1	MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$1,954,475	656	4.9%
196	ROSEMOUNT-APPLE VALLEY-EAGAN	\$1,576,281	511	3.9%
11	ANOKA-HENNEPIN PUBLIC SCHOOL DIST.	\$1,417,275	612	3.5%
728	ELK RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$867,432	316	2.2%
742	ST. CLOUD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$820,188	398	2.0%
279	OSSEO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$809,499	308	2.0%
833	SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST.	\$753,553	287	1.9%
194	LAKEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$670,244	327	1.7%
281	ROBBINSDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$627,188	206	1.6%

Expense data and eligible staff as reported by districts not audited or validated

Unemployment Expense Survey Results (2)

LEA Type	Expenditures	Eligible Staff*	Average cost per staff	
School Districts	\$ 37,537,195	16,325	\$ 2,299.37	
Charter	\$ 797,368	675	\$ 1,181.29	
Intermediates	\$ 1,078,082	411	\$ 2,623.07	
Cooperatives	\$ 710,823	455	\$ 1,562.25	
TOTAL	\$ 40,123,467	17,866	\$ 1,916.49	

Unemployment Expense Survey Results (4)

Ten Largest Charter Submissions by Cost

District #	District Name	Total Expense	Eligible Staff	% of Submitted Total
4122	EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL	\$51,269.76	21	0.1%
4183	LIONSGATE ACADEMY	\$50,499.92	28	0.1%
4008	PACT CHARTER SCHOOL	\$40,070.86	14	0.1%
4142	STRIDE ACADEMY	\$33,727.00	16	0.1%
4113	SPERO ACADEMY	\$31,921.26	23	0.1%
4137	SWAN RIVER MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL	\$29,663.24	13	0.1%
4255	SKYLINE MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY	\$28,986.16	11	0.1%
4074	AFSA HIGH SCHOOL	\$27,345.24	12	0.1%
4231	MINNESOTA MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY	\$26,828.53	11	0.1%
4124	BEACON ACADEMY	\$26,450.39	11	0.1%

Expense data and eligible staff as reported by districts not audited or validated

Unemployment Cost per Employment Category

	Para- professional Expenditures	Food Service Expenditures	Transportation Expenditures	Clerical Expenditures	Operations and Maintenance Expenditures	Other	Statewide Totals
Total Costs	\$26,354,835	\$4,782,469	\$2,579, 616	\$2,680,910	\$57,958	\$2,148,498	\$38,604,286
% of Total	68.27%	12.39%	6.68%	6.94%	0.15%	5.57%	

This survey was sent as a separate data collection and the number of respondents varied from the initial survey to collect total unemployment costs, leading to a difference in the statewide totals. This data, in more detail can be found in the Legislative Report on Unemployment Costs submitted in January 2024. This data is considered unaudited.

Timelines

May 2023	UI Law Enacted May 28, 2023
	Eligible non-certified staff submitted unemployment applications to DEED
	LEA's validated staff UI submissions
Oct-Nov	MDE Deployed 2 surveys to collect UI data: (1) collect costs to support an aid payment in November to align with UI billing and (2) collect UI costs by employment category
Jan 2024	MDE provided a report to the legislature with estimated costs by employment category
June 2024	End of Fiscal Year – expenses reported from May 28, 2023 – June 30, 2024 will be adjusted to actual in January 2025
Oct-Nov	2 nd Year Survey to support aid payment and expenses by employment area
Jan 2025	Final adjustment to actual FY2024 costs reported to MDE



Thank You!

Cathy Erickson, Director of School Finance