

Opening up the Black Box of Special Education!

Maximizing Resources: Special Education
Funding, Staffing & Programs



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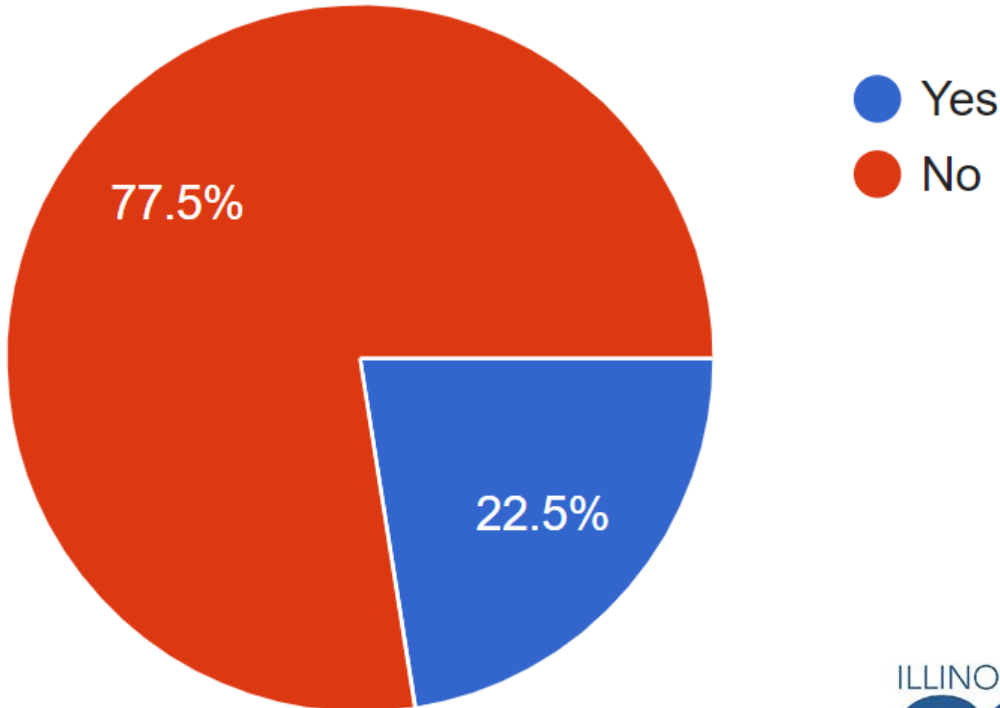
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SPECIAL EDUCATION SURVEY!

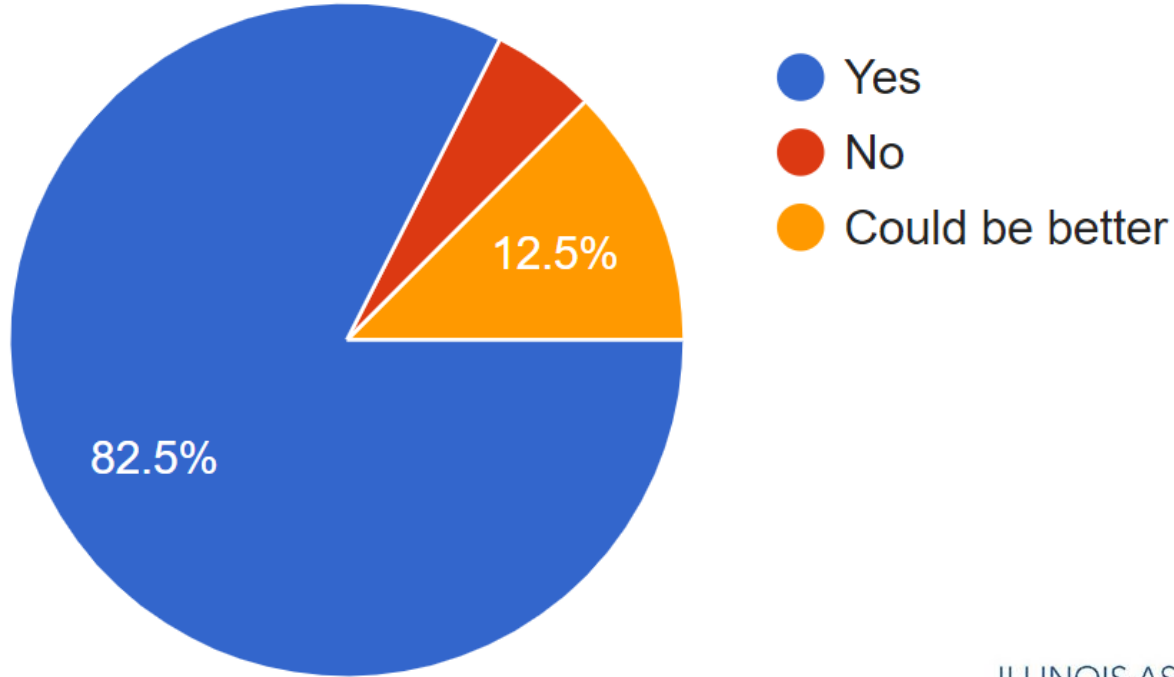
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Do you have a full understanding of ALL Special Education Revenues and Expenditures?



Do you work well with your Special Education Department?



82.5% Work

**Well With
SPED!!**

**77.5% DO NOT
have a FULL
Understanding!**

Hmmm, Very Interesting!!!

Survey – ZOOM Poll Follow-up

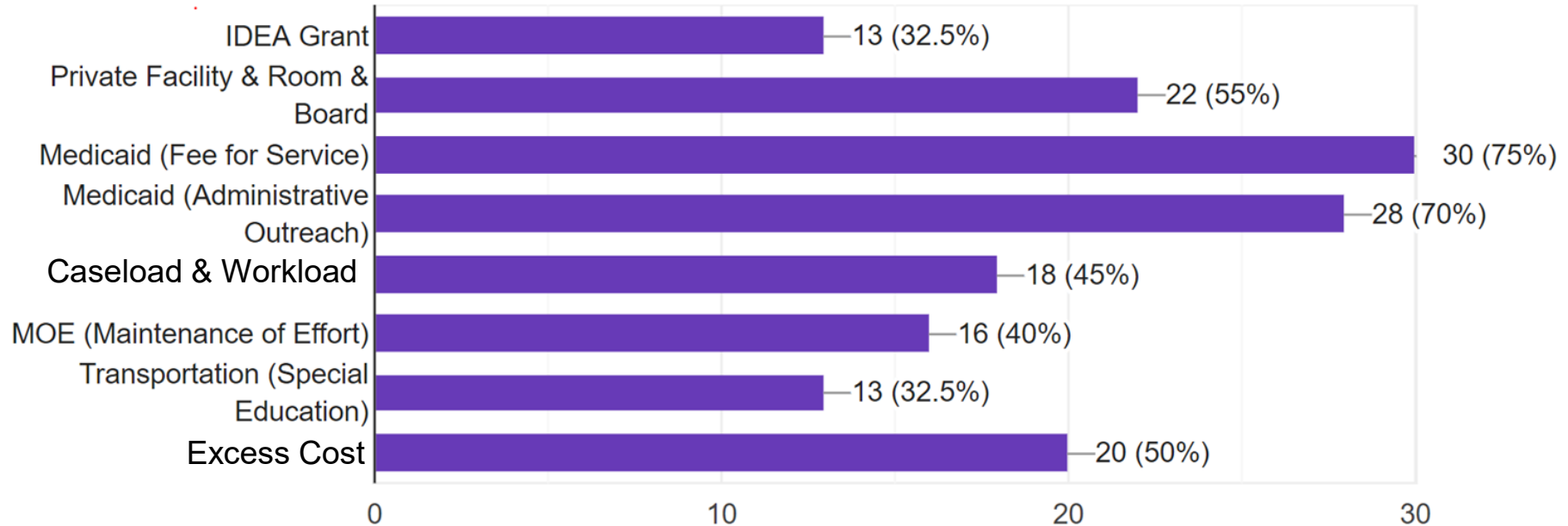
1. Do you “Work” with your Special Education Department?

- ✓ Does Fiscal review ALL claims?
- ✓ Does Fiscal have oversight of Medicaid and involvement with all Grants?
- ✓ Do you meet regularly with your Sped team?

2. Approximately what % of your Operating Budget is for Special Education?

- a. 5%
- b. 8.2%
- c. 13.1%
- d. 17.0%

What areas of Special Education do you feel that you need a deeper understanding?



Agenda:

- Medicaid
 - ❖ Fee for Service
 - ❖ Administrative Outreach
 - ❖ Medicaid Other Opportunities
- Workload & Caseload Management
- Private Facility, Orphanage & Room & Board
- Excess Cost
- Other
- Questions?

Fee for Service

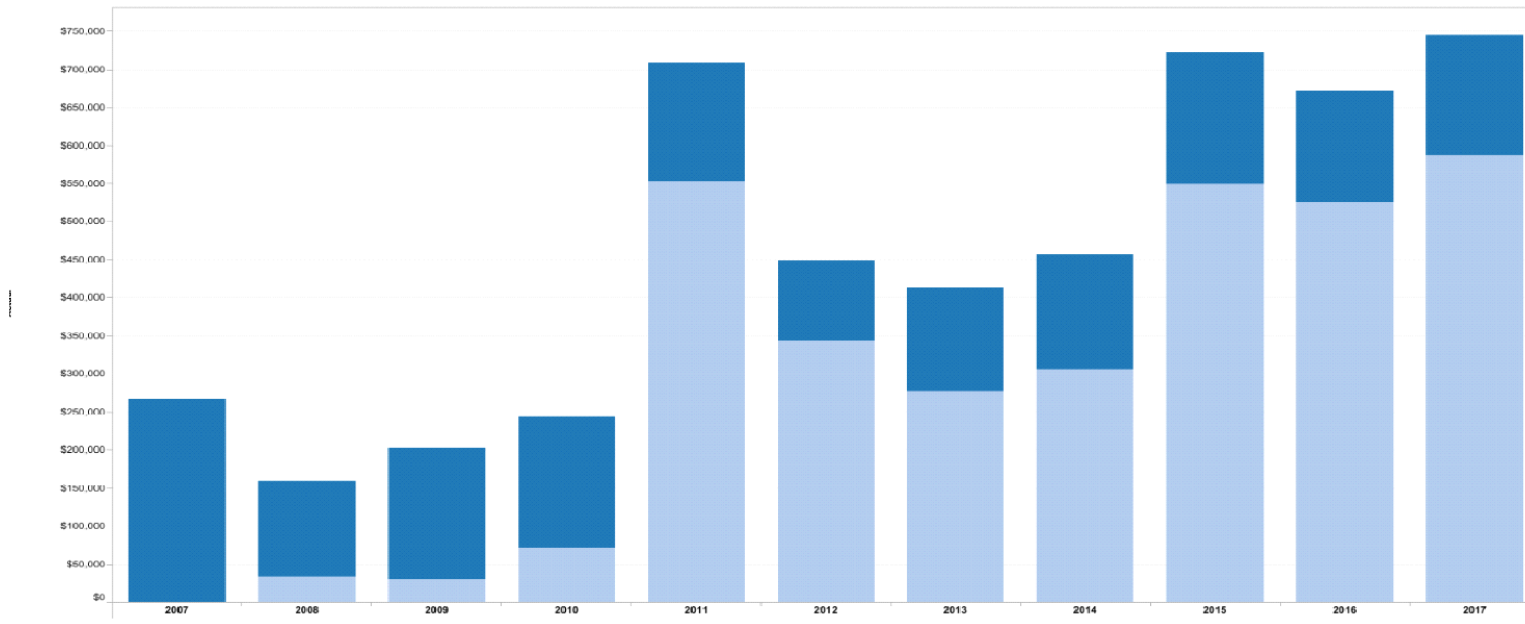
- ❑ Benchmarking – Identifying the Opportunity!
 - ❖ The 158 Story...
- ❑ Opportunities and Suggested Next Steps



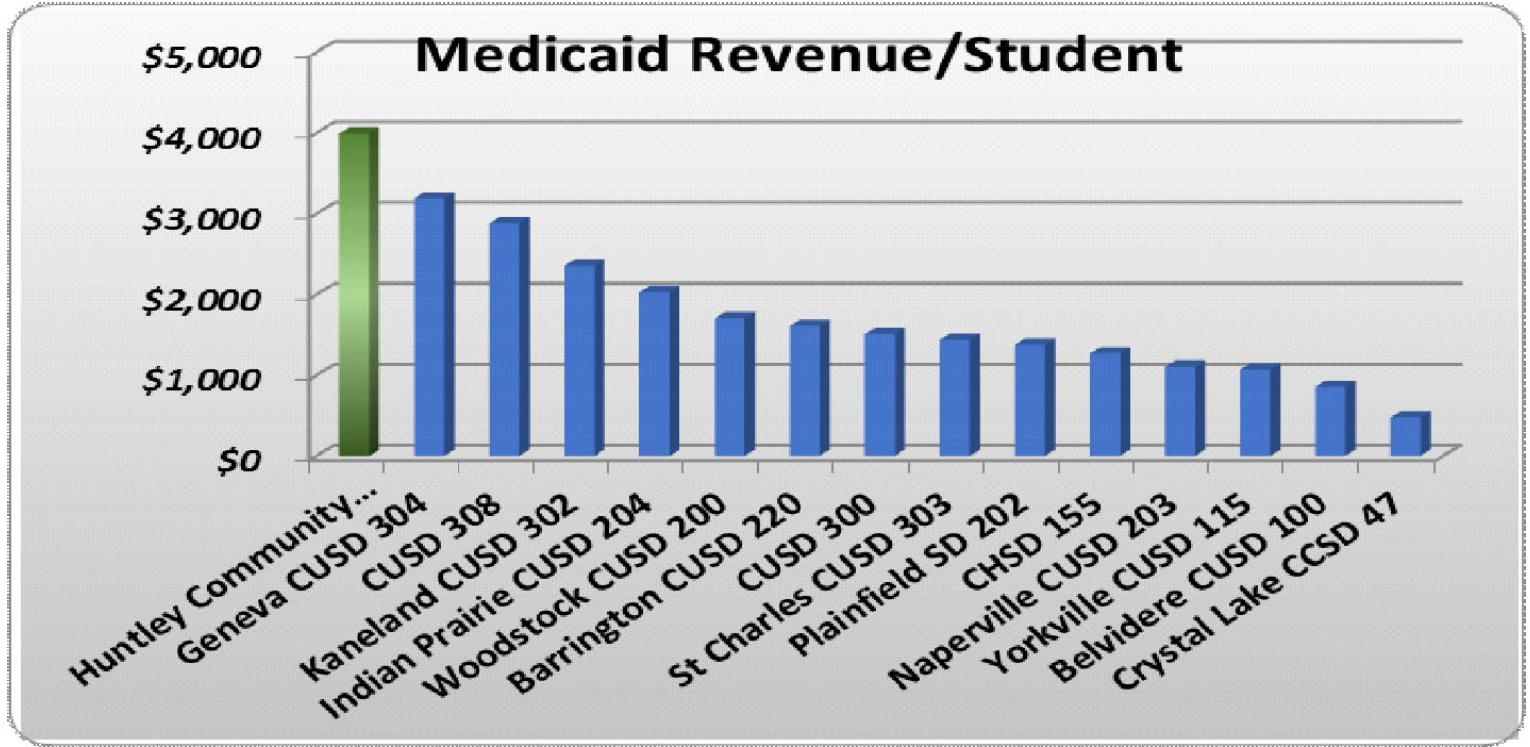
Fee for Service – The Huntley Story



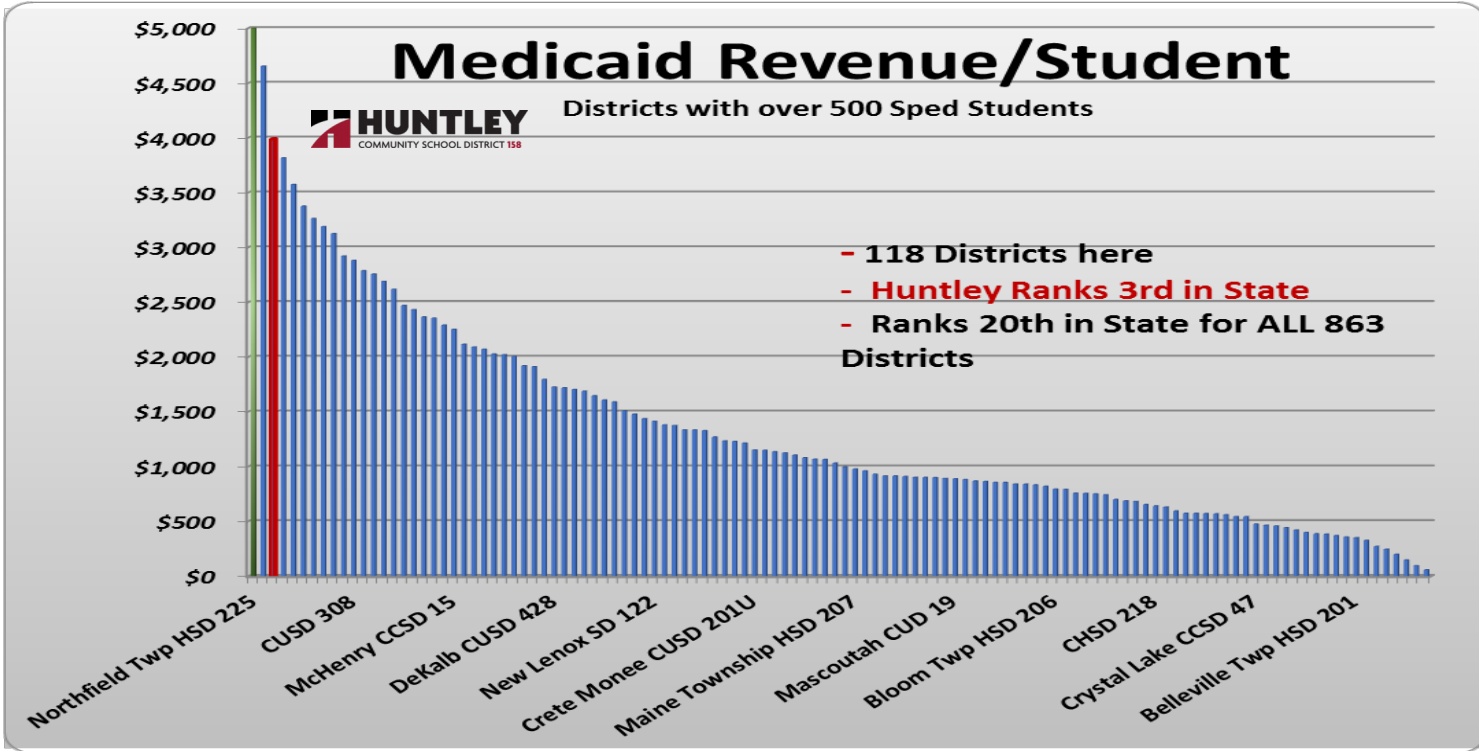
Revenue Bar Chart
Huntley Community School District 156
By: Detail Source
Source: 5 Year Budget and AFR



Benchmarking Medicaid



Benchmarking Medicaid



Fee for Service – Opportunities

- ❑ Identify your Medicaid Eligible Students
 - ❖ Know your number!
 - ❖ Free & Reduced List
 - ❖ Check Name Configurations Against the HFS Medi System
- ❑ Identify Staff
 - ❖ Related Services Staff
 - ❖ 1:1 Aides
 - ❖ Nurses
 - ❖ Audiologists
 - ❖ Contracted Related Services
- ❑ Create Oversight & Accountability!
 - ❖ Caseload & Workload
 - ❖ Recording of Sessions
 - ❖ IEP Minutes – Is your Staff Meeting their Minutes?



Administrative Outreach

- **FEDERAL** reimbursement to state and local agencies for activities related to the administration of the State's Medicaid plan
- **Reimbursement** for:
 - Medical and health related outreach
 - Case management
 - Admin activities related to delivery of services
 - Coordinating, assisting, referring access to Medicaid related services

Administrative Outreach

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) partners with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to facilitate the statewide Medicaid Administrative Claim Program through a random moment in time study (RMTS) Process

Administrative Outreach - 4 steps

1. Participant identification - determines who performs Medicaid Admin Outreach activities
2. Random moment in time study - determines how much reimbursable activity is performed
 - Related service staff selected throughout the quarter, staff receive notification of time and date
3. Financial data collection - determine actual costs associated with these activities
4. Claim calculation - apply reimbursements to calculate claim, claim is sent to the state for reimbursement

Who Completes Random Moment in Time Study?

- Audiologist
- Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant
- Social Worker
- School Psychologist
- Speech Language Therapist or Speech Assistant
- Interpreters

Administrative Outreach Tips

- Quarterly reports due Oct 15, Jan 15, April 15, and July 15
 - Claims are accepted for two years
- Before the quarter starts, identify all positions that qualify and the employees assigned to those positions
 - Ensure staff is not funded through IDEA
- No estimates or prorations!
- Biggest reimbursement comes from the salaries and benefits of the employees listed in the participant list

Medicaid - Other Opportunities

- ❑ Free Care – Not just for IEP Students
- ❑ Telehealth and billing of Asynchronous Minutes

Work load & Caseload Management

Work Load vs. Caseload

Caseload is the number of students with IEPs assigned to that teacher or specialist

Work Load is all of the responsibility required of the special education teacher and specialist to meet the needs of the students.

Work Load Plan

*Illinois Admin Code 226.735 Work Load for Special Education

Work Load Plan is designed to allow:

- FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education) in the LRE (Least Restrictive Environment)
- Appropriate staff number to support the students' IEP

Work Load Plan

Plan should be based on:

1. Individual instruction time
2. Consultative services and collaboration
3. Attendance at IEP meetings
4. Paperwork and reporting

*Speech therapist caseloads shall not exceed 60 students

Considerations

- Travel
- Needs of the students
- Meetings required (reevaluation vs IEP)
- Direct and consult minutes
- Obligations of CBA
- Other duties as assigned (MTSS, study halls, etc.)

Analysis

-Schedules

-Teacher Workload Analysis

Student Name	Grade	School	EE Code	Primary Disability	Direct Service Min per week	Indirect Service Min per week
Johnny Smith	3rd	Washington	02	OHI	300	30
Lucy Class	1st	Lincoln	01	OHI	150	20

Private Facility Tuition Reimbursement

Provides reimbursement for a portion of the private facility tuition costs incurred by the district from the prior school year.

Reimbursement Formula	
Reimbursement Level	Costs exceeding 2x the district per Capita cost

Private Tuition Claim Due: August 15th

Reimbursed Quarterly

Federal Room & Board Reimbursement

District must have an approved ISBE Private Residential Placement Room & Board Reimbursement Form to transmit a claim.

Application for Approval of Private Residential Placement

https://www.isbe.net/Documents/34-37_residential_room_board.pdf#search=application%20for%20approval%20of%20private

Claims should be submitted monthly through IWAS

Excess Cost

- Reimbursement for educational costs of high-cost, high-need students whose costs are in excess of 4x the district per capita tuition charges
- There is no dedicated budget line-item allocation for Excess Cost Students.
- Reimbursed from excess federal room & board funds.

Excess Cost Claim Due: July 15th

Reimbursed Quarterly

Orphanage

Reimburses 100% of the current year tuition costs for eligible students with disabilities who are wards of the State under the guardianship of a public agency or who reside in state residential facilities. This includes regular term and summer term.

Reimbursement Formula

$$\text{Education Costs} + \text{Required Transportation} = \text{Reimbursement}$$

Regular Orphanage Tuition Claim Due: June 15th

Summer Orphanage Tuition Claim Due: November 1st

Reimbursed Quarterly

Questions and Answers

We thank you for your time!