

ENGLISH LEARNER FUNDING: How Does Michigan Compare to Other States?

About **96,000 Michigan students** are classified as English learners (ELs), up from 68,000 ten years ago. In 2023-24, Michigan schools received funding for ELs through two primary sources: about **\$11 million** in Federal Title III, Part A grants and about **\$39.8 million** in state Section 41 grants.



FUNDING SOURCES

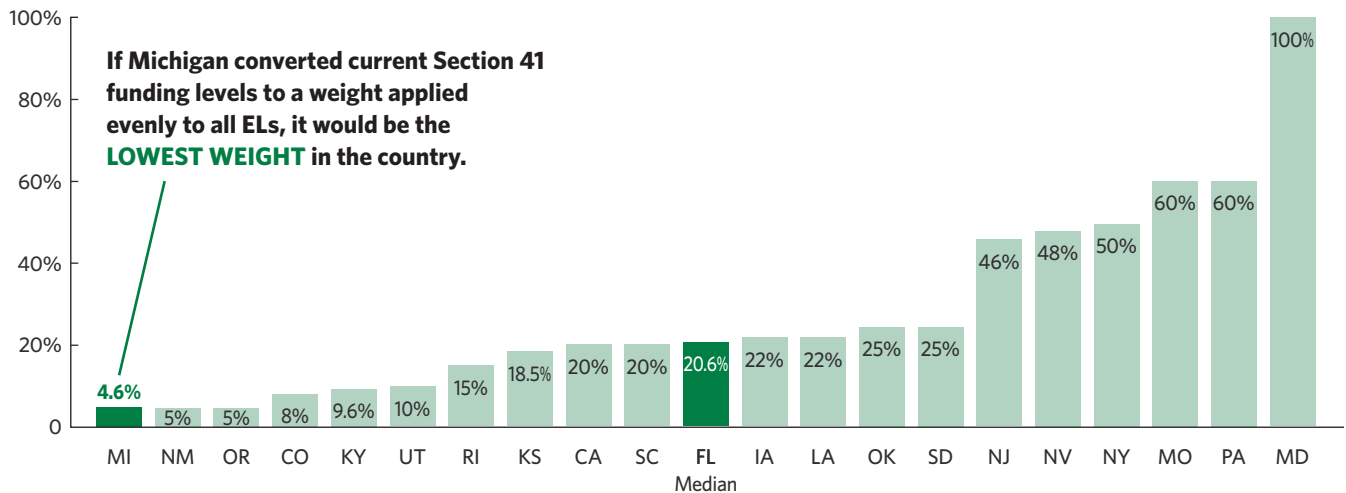
Federal Title III, Part A grants
\$11 million

State Section 41 grants
\$39.8 million

| English Proficiency Level | FY 2023-24 Funding Allocated | | Future Funding per 2023-24 School Aid Budget | |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Amount Allocated | Percent of Target Foundation Allowance | Amount Intended | Percent of Target Foundation Allowance |
| Level 1.0-1.9 (very early) | \$1,476 | 15% | \$6,862.50 | 75% |
| Level 2.0-2.9 (early) | \$1,019 | 11% | \$4,575 | 50% |
| Level 3.0-3.9 (intermediate) | \$167 | 2% | \$3,202.50 | 35% |
| Level 4.0-4.7 (approaching proficient) | \$0 | 0 | \$0 | 0 |

Among states that provide state funding for EL students, **Michigan is the only state that does not provide funding for all ELs**. Although districts have a legal obligation to provide additional language support services to students, Michigan does not provide additional funding to students approaching English proficient (level 4.0-4.7). Most states allocate funds to EL students using a weight: A multiplier added to the per-pupil foundation amount for students classified as ELs.

EL Funding Weight



EL Funding Information for States That Use a Weight

| STATE | % EL | # EL | WEIGHT |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Michigan | 6.4% of state enrollment | 93,889 students | Michigan currently uses a categorical grant (Section 41) to fund EL education; FY 2023-24 School Aid Budget includes intent to move toward a weighted formula in the future. |
| California | 17.7 | 1,062,264 | Weight of 0.2 for all students classified as ELs; Additional weight of 0.65 to a district's percentage of classified ELs in excess of 55% of total enrollment. |
| Colorado | 10.5 | 90,155 | Weight of 0.08 for all students classified as EL |
| Connecticut | 8.0 | 41,973 | Bilingual education program grant (\$139/pupil enrolled in bilingual education programs); Weight of 0.25 for all students classified as ELs |
| District of Columbia | 12.0 | 9,440 | Weight of 0.50 for ELs in grades PK3-5; Weight of 0.75 for ELs in grades 6-12, adult students, alternative students, or ELs in special education schools |
| Florida | 9.7 | 624,546 | Weight of 0.206 for all students classified as ELs |
| Iowa | 6.1 | 30,410 | Weight of 0.22 for all students classified as ELs |
| Kansas | 9.2 | 42,694 | Weight of 0.395 for FTE enrollment in approved programs; Weight of 0.185 for enrollment in approved programs |
| Kentucky | 5.0 | 31,842 | Weight of 0.096 for all students classified as ELs |
| Louisiana | 4.1 | 27,339 | Weight of 0.22 for all students classified as ELs |
| Maine | 3.1 | 5,210 | Weight of 0.70 per EL for school administrative units with 15 or fewer ELs; Weight of 0.50 per EL for school administrative units with 15-250 ELs; Weight of 0.525 per EL for school administrative units with more than 250 ELs |
| Maryland | 10.3 | 88,834 | Weight of 1.00 for all students classified as ELs |
| Missouri | 3.8 | 32,512 | Weight of 0.60 for all students classified as ELs |
| Nevada | 13.7 | 64,601 | Weight of 0.48 for all students classified as ELs |
| New Jersey | 7.2 | 95,042 | Weight of 0.46 for all students classified as ELs; Additional weight of 0.0981 for EL students also classified as At Risk |
| New Mexico | 16.0 | 49,497 | Weight of 0.05 for all students classified as ELs |
| New York | 9.4 | 239,954 | Weight of 0.50 for all students classified as ELs |
| North Dakota | 3.6 | 4,018 | Weight of 0.40 for EL students scoring in the lowest category of English proficiency; Weight of 0.28 for EL students scoring in the second lowest category of English proficiency; Weight of 0.07 for EL students scoring in the third lowest category of English proficiency |
| Ohio | 3.7 | 59,519 | Weight of 0.2104 for each EL enrolled in US schools for 180 days or fewer; Weight of 0.1577 for each EL who has been enrolled in US schools for more than 180 days and who has not yet scored proficient on an English proficiency assessment; Weight of 0.1053 for each student who achieves a score of proficient on the state English proficiency assessment. Students may receive this weight for two school years following the school year in which they scored proficient. |
| Oklahoma | 9.2 | 60,282 | Weight of 0.25 for all students classified as ELs |
| Oregon | 9.3 | 52,230 | Weight of 0.5 for all students classified as ELs |
| Pennsylvania | 4.2 | 71,571 | Weight of 0.6 for all students classified as ELs |
| Rhode Island | 12.2 | 16,684 | Weight of 0.15 for all students classified as ELs |
| South Carolina | 5.7 | 42,731 | Weight of 0.20 for all students classified as ELs |
| South Dakota | 4.8 | 6,259 | Weight of 0.25 for all students classified as ELs |
| Texas | 20.1 | 1,034,543 | Weight of 0.10 for ELs enrolled in an ESL program; Weight of 0.15 for ELs enrolled in a dual language program; Weight of 0.05 for non-ELs enrolled in a dual language program |
| Utah | 8.1 | 54,067 | Weight of 0.10 for all students classified as ELs |