

Special Education Services Agency (SESA)

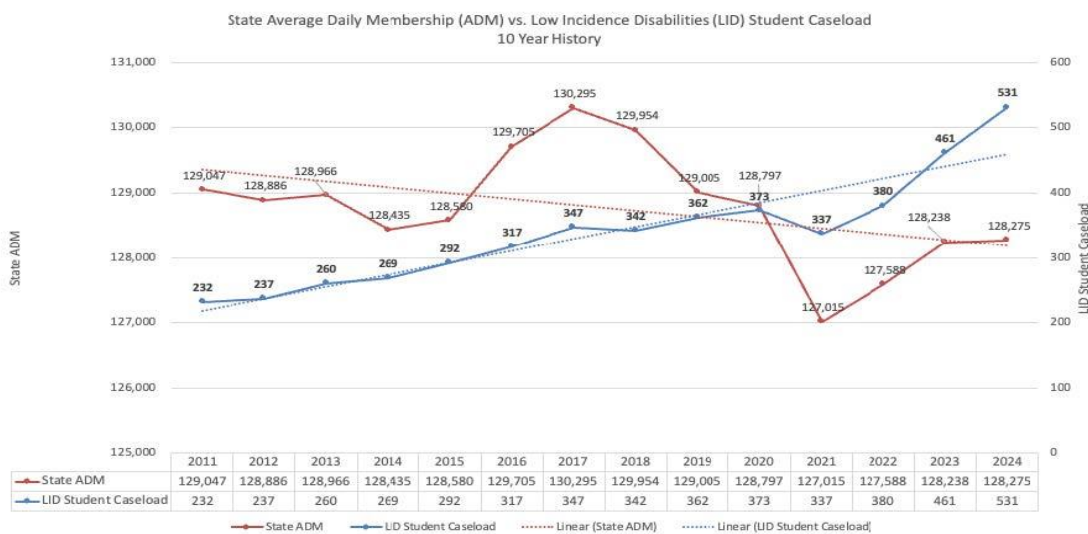


ASK

Please support an increase to SESA's funding formula

WHAT

- SESA is an educational service agency comprised of a low incidence disability (LID) service inclusive of a statewide lending library. Low incidence disabilities include autism, deaf and hard of hearing (DHOH), vision impairment, emotional disabilities and multiple disabilities.
- SESA's low incidence disability program is funded through a formula based on Alaska's Annual Daily Membership (ADM) as calculated by the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED).
- As illustrated below, Alaska's ADM is in decline while SESA's LID caseload is steadily increasing creating an environment where every year they are serving more children with less money.



- SESA currently has 13.8 full time education specialists in their LID program with a maximum caseload of 40 students per position. This equates to a maximum LID program enrollment of 550 students.
- Since the end of the FYI 21 school year, their LID program enrollment has grown by approximately 16% per year.
- At the end of the FY 24 school year, their LID program enrollment was 531.
- If the program continues to grow at 16% per year maximum caseloads will be exceeded in the FY 26 school year.
- SESA's current funding formula is $ADM \times \$23.13$
 - This rate, coupled with unprecedented inflation, does not allow the addition of full-time positions to serve the projected growth of the program while maintaining competitive salaries.
 - Without the hiring of additional education specialists for the LID program, a waitlist will need to be implemented.

ASK: Please increase the amount per student in the formula: $ADM \times \$26.89$