

K-3 Class Size Reduction Operations Funding

The K-3 Class Size Reduction (CSR) Operations funding application is now available on California Department of Education's (CDE) website at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/cs/k3/formsinst.asp>. Districts must re-apply each year in order to participate in this program. Districts may access the cover letter, application (including the Excel version), instructions, "Frequently Asked Questions", MYTRE waiver, program guide and all other documents on this website. CDE will not be mailing copies to individual school districts or charter schools.

The funding rates for 2005-06 are \$967 per pupil for Option One (full day) classes and \$484 per pupil for Option Two (half day) classes. No funding is available for the CSR Facilities program for 2005-06. Districts are encouraged to subscribe to the K-3 CSR email list at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/cs/k3/emailsub.asp> in order to receive the most up-to-date information on the K-3 CSR program.

The California Department of Education and local educational agencies are obligated to ensure that the CSR program is implemented in a manner that does not discriminate against pupils with disabilities. Specific information about this obligation can be found on the CSR web page at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/cs/k3/consider.asp>. Charter schools are eligible to participate in CSR programs under the same conditions that other schools are eligible. Direct-funded charter schools must apply for CSR funds separately from their sponsoring school district. A locally funded charter school may also apply separately provided they are NOT also included in the sponsoring district's application. It is important that locally funded charter schools verify with their sponsoring district whether or not the district is including them in the district's application.

School districts must make available the California Department of Education CSR cover letter at the beginning of the school year to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) of each school in the district that participates in the CSR program, so that they may access the application package and information on the website if they so desire. See website for more details and staff contacts.

The 2005-06 CSR Operations Program application must be postmarked to the California Department of Education (CDE) no later than October 11, 2005. This means that the district must present the application to the board prior to this due date. This is a statutory deadline and may mean a denial of funding if not postmarked prior to October 11, 2005.

In addition, the county office of education would appreciate a courtesy copy of Form CSR-O-2, 2005-06 Operations Application, K-3 Class Size Reduction, be sent to Business Advisory Services, so we can anticipate your funding levels for the 2005-06 fiscal year. Please send a copy to the county office of education and not the original. The original must be sent by your district directly to CDE.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Business Advisory Services.