

GETTING SEEK FUNDING BACK ON TRACK

MERCER COUNTY SCHOOLS

It's time to restore the SEEK guarantee
to it's 2008 buying power.

1

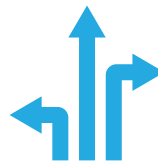
FULL BUYING POWER

First, getting SEEK back on track means bringing the SEEK guarantee per pupil back to the full buying power it had in the 2008 school year. Year after year, inflation has been shrinking the value of basic school dollars. To match the 2008 SEEK guarantee of \$3,822 per student, it will take \$5,400 in today's dollars. The SEEK guarantee amount is also used to calculate add-ons for student needs and district eligibility for Tier 1 additional funding.

2

ADDRESSING COST OF TRANSPORTATION

Second, getting SEEK back on track means addressing the full cost of school transportation. Transportation has always been part of the SEEK formula, using the state's own calculation of what transportation should cost. But for years and years now, state funding has provided only a fraction of that amount. In the 2022-23 school year, state funding addressed only 69% of the cost.



2022-2023

MORE BASE FUNDING PER STUDENT

\$1,300

MORE FUNDING TO MEET ADDED STUDENT NEEDS

\$429

MORE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

\$227

INCREASE IN STATE TIER 1 FUNDING

\$99

TOTAL ADDED FUNDING PER STUDENT

\$2,055

TOTAL ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED

\$5,237,528

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Mercer County Schools

SEEK BASE

	CURRENT	BACK ON TRACK \$5,400 BASE	ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED
BASE GUARANTEE TOTAL	\$10,451,322	\$13,765,156	3,313,834
STUDENTS	2,549	2,549	N/A
BASE GUARANTEE PER STUDENT	\$4,100	\$5,400	\$1,300

SEEK ADD-ONS FOR STUDENT NEEDS

	CURRENT	BACK ON TRACK \$5,400 BASE	ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED
ADD-ON FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS (15% OF BASE)	\$890,341	\$1,172,644	\$282,303
ADD-ON FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS (235%, 117% OR 24% OF BASE)	\$2,508,298	\$3,303,612	\$795,314
ADD-ON FOR HOME AND HOSPITAL STUDENTS (BASE MINUS \$100)	\$30,908	\$40,953	\$10,045
ADD-ON FOR STUDENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (9.6% OF BASE)	\$18,499	\$24,365	\$5,866
ADD-ON TOTAL	\$3,448,046	\$4,541,574	1,093,528
STUDENTS	2,549	2,549	N/A
ADD-ONS PER STUDENT	\$1,353	\$1,782	\$429

SEEK TRANSPORTATION

	CURRENT	BACK ON TRACK \$5,400 BASE	ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED
SEEK TRANSPORTATION	\$1,278,304	\$1,856,690	578,386.00
STUDENTS	2,549.10	2,549	N/A
SEEK TRANSPORTATION PER STUDENT	\$501	\$728	\$227

Districts qualify for SEEK Base, Add-ons, and Transportation by gathering local tax revenue equal to 30¢ for every \$100 in assessed property value. Residents in this school district are already contributing that local share. It's time to get the state share back on track.

TIER 1 ADDED EQUALIZATION

	CURRENT	BACK ON TRACK \$5,400 BASE	ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED
TIER 1 MAXIMUM	\$2,363,409	\$3,024,513	N/A
LOCAL SHARE OF MAXIMUM	\$1,463,310	\$1,872,634	N/A
STATE SHARE OF MAXIMUM	\$900,099	\$1,151,879	251,780
STUDENTS	2,549	2,549	N/A
STATE SHARE OF MAXIMUM PER STUDENT	\$353	\$452	\$99