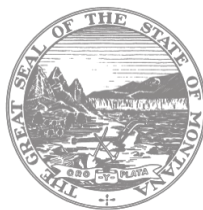


DRAFT as of 9/1/2022

OPI's Priority Legislative List

1. A Promise is a Promise: Base Aid requirements
2. Teacher \$ Working for TeachMT: Transference of Teacher Licensing fees
3. One-time only funding for replacement and maintenance of audiology equipment: §20-7-403, MCA
4. Amending mental health tuition payments to allow tuition for any residential mental health (not just children's psychiatric hospitals or residential treatment centers) that is licensed by DPHHS and is providing education services to those student residents





DRAFT

OPI Bill Draft Request – 2023 Legislature

Request 1: Streamline the use of teacher and specialist license fees in [§ 20-4-109, MCA](#), by directing those fees to be used for OPI administration of teacher licensing system. Fees would not be increased. BPE would have the flexibility to seek a direct appropriation unencumbered by the limited fee amount. Draft amendment language could be as follows:

20-4-109. Fees for teacher and specialist certificates. (1) A person applying for the issuance or renewal of a teacher or specialist certificate shall pay a fee not to exceed \$6 for each school fiscal year that the certificate is valid. In addition to this fee, a person who has never held any class of Montana teacher or specialist certificate or for whom an emergency authorization of employment has never been issued shall pay a filing fee of \$6. The fees must be paid to the superintendent of public instruction, who shall deposit the fees with the state treasurer to the credit of the state special revenue fund account, created in subsection (2), ~~to be used in the following manner:~~

~~(a) —\$4 for expenses of the certification standards and practices advisory council created in 2-15-1522;~~

~~(b) —\$2 to the board of public education and the certification standards and practices advisory council for activities in support of the constitutional and statutory duties of the board of public education and the certification standards and practices advisory council.~~

(2) There is an account in the state special revenue fund. Money from fees for teacher or specialist certificates required in subsection (1) must be deposited in the account.

Prog 06 – State Administration

Audiological Services Equipment Replacement (OTO):

This request is for \$333,692 of general fund authority (OTO) for the 2025 biennium to fund the replacement of audiology equipment used to provide hearing screenings for Montana students. The IDEA requires schools to have an effective child find system in place for children suspected of having disabilities through age of 21. The OPI Hearing Conservation Program is the primary method for schools to ensure proper identification of students with hearing impairments. This funding is to repair or replace audiology testing equipment that needs repair or is no longer supported by the manufacturer.

(Not included in IBARS but kept here for informational purposes)

In partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services the OPI administers the Hearing Conservation Program which mandates hearing screenings in grades K, 1, and either 9 or 10. The public school takes on the primary responsibility for conducting screenings where OPI contracts with audiologists to provide hearing screenings and provides the hearing screening equipment for audiologists. Currently, there are ten areas which audiologists provide hearing screening throughout the state. All ten audiologists are currently screening with outdated equipment which is no longer supported by the manufacturer. OPI has worked with audiologists in repairing current equipment but as stated most hearing equipment is no longer supported by manufactures requiring full replacement.

Teacher Licensing Fees:

This request is for \$160,000 of state special revenue authority in the last year of the biennium to redirect teacher license fees to the Office of Public Instruction to fund the maintenance costs for the TeachMT licensing system. The OPI will continue to fund personal services and general operating expenses of administering the licensing program via the Program 06 General Fund budget.

Tribal Computer Boost Scholarship Program:

This request is for \$32,000 of general fund authority in each year of the biennium to fund the Tribal Computer Programming Boost Scholarship Program as required from HB 644 of the 67th Legislative session. OPI shall administer the teacher professional development component as provided in 20-7-106, MCA.

FTE Efficiency:

This request is for a reduction of \$(251,326) in FY 2024 and a reduction of \$(252,106) in FY 2025 of federal special revenue authority. The Montana Office of Public Instruction is reverting 4.0 FTE due to the completion of the SAMHSA grant which ended March of 2022.

Prog 09 – Distribution to Schools

K-12 Base Aid:

This request is for \$27,341,074 in FY 2024 and \$74,063,369 in FY 2025 of general fund authority to support inflationary increases for the basic entitlement, per-ANB (average number of belongings) entitlement, the quality educator payment, the Indian education for all payment, data for achievement payment, special education allowable cost payment and the American Indian achievement gap payment.

This request includes funding for both the growth in enrollment (ANB) and the inflationary increases in the statutory funding rates.

At Risk:

This request is for \$158,592 in FY 2024 and by \$339,563 in FY 2025 of general fund authority to support the inflationary increases for the at-risk student payments.

National Board Certification:

This request is for \$33,000 in each year of the biennium to fund anticipated increases for stipends to qualified teachers who hold a current certification with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards per 20-4-134, MCA. This request also adjusts the account level for the starting point authority from operating expense (62000) to local assistance (65000).

Major Maintenance:

This request is for \$2,870,000 in FY 2024 and \$3,178,100 in FY 2025 for the Natural Resource Development K-12 school facilities payment to support School Major Maintenance in Montana public schools, per 90-9-635, MCA. For FY 2024, the request is made up of an increase of \$2,809,000 general fund authority and an increase of \$61,000 state special coal sub-trust funds. For FY 2025, this request is made up of an increase of \$3,117,100 general fund authority and an increase of \$61,000 state special coal sub-trust funds.

State Transformational Learning Aid:

This request is for \$193,257 in FY 2024 and \$256,854 in FY 2025 of general fund authority to increase the state transformational learning payment. These increases represent 10% of the estimated statewide number of full-time equivalent educators from the fiscal year immediately preceding the year to which distribution of transformational aid applies as directed in section 20-7-1602(8)(b)(iii), MCA.

State Advance Opportunities Aid:

This request is for \$1,151,514 in FY 2024 and \$1,251,673 in FY 2025 of general fund authority to increase the state advance opportunities payment. These increases represent an amount sufficient to provide advanced opportunities aid to 100% of districts in FY 2024 and FY 2025 as per section 20-7-1506(7), MCA.

Debt Service Assistance:

This request is for \$1,000,000 in each year of the biennium of state special revenue to fund increases in the debt service assistance payments.



Hearing Conservation Program Equipment Status (As Of 9/1/2022)

Equipment Good
Manufacture Discontinued
Manufacture No Longer Supports

Area 1 & 2 (Glasgow)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDXPro
	\$4,770	Biologic	FA10
	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDXPro
		GSI	18
		IAC	Soundbooth
		Madsen	Astera
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	42
	\$3,800	MicroAudiometrics	ESTM
	\$3,800	MicroAudiometrics	EST

Area 1 & 2 (Kalispell)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
		Maico	MA39
		IAC	Soundbooth
	\$5,160	Maico	MA27
		Maico	MA39
		Path	Sentiero Desktop
		Madsen	Astera

Area 3&4 (Glendive)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
	\$15,687	GSI	38
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	MA39
	\$9,500	GSI	Tympstar
	\$17,133	GSI	61
		Path	Sentiero Desktop
		Tracoustic	Soundbooth

Area 5 (Billings Tina)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
Yellow	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDXPro
Red	\$5,160	GSI	38
Yellow	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDX
Red	\$5,160	GSI	38
Red	\$15,289	GSI	61
Green		IAC	Soundroom
Green		Maico	MA39
Green		Path	Sentiero Desktop
Green		Path	Sentiero Desktop

Area 6 (Great Falls)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
Red	\$4,700	Madsen	Midimate 622
Yellow	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDXPro
Green		IAC	Soundroom
Green		Madsen	Alpha
Green		Maico	MA39
Red	\$3,800	Microaudiometrics	ES21TR
Red	\$3,800	Microaudiometrics	EST
Green		Maico	MA39
Green		Maico	MA39
Green		Maico	MA39
Green		Maico	MA39
Red	\$5,160	Maico	MA39
Red	\$5,160	Starkey	SA10

Area 7 (Butte/Helena)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
Green		Madsen	Astera
Green		Path	Sentiero Desktop
Red	\$5,160	Maico	MA19
Yellow	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDX
Red	\$9,476	GSI	Tympstar
Red	\$5,160	Starkey	SA10
Red	\$5,160	Starkey	SA10
Red	\$15,289	GSI	61
Red	\$2,729	Tracoustic	Soundroom

Area 8 (Missoula)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
Green		Audioscan	RM500SL
Yellow	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDX
Red	\$5,160	GSI	17
Red	\$5,160	GSI	38
Green		Maico	MA39
Green		Maico	MA39
Green		Path	Sentiero Desktop
Red	\$5,160	Qualitone	AS
Red	\$5,160	Qualitone	AS

Area 9 (Billings Kim)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
		Acoustic Systems	Soundbooth
	\$15,687	Biologic	AuDXPro
	\$5,160	GSI	17
	\$5,160	GSI	17
	\$5,160	GSI	38
		GSI	39
		Madsen	Astera
	\$8,121	Madsen	Zodiac901
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	MA40
		Path	Sentiero Desktop

Area 10 (Bozeman)

<u>Condition</u>	<u>Estimated cost to replace</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL</u>
		IAC	Soundbooth
		Maico	MA39
		Maico	MA39
	\$6,451	Madsen	Otoflex
	\$6,451	Madsen	Itera2

Total Replacment Need \$333,692