



NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

*COVID-19 Pandemic Unaccounted for Students
Report*

§ S.L. 2021-180 Section 7.27(a)

Date Due: November 15, 2022
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2021-2022

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INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Session Law 2021-180 (Senate Bill 105 (Section 7.27 (a)(13)), \$7,265,134 was made available for Public School Units (PSUs) to identify and locate missing students by contracting with either (i) one or more third-party entities to provide technology to assist with this purpose or (ii) outside personnel.

(13) \$7,265,134 to establish a grant program, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to allocate funds to public school units to identify and locate missing students by contracting with either (i) one or more third-party entities to provide technology to assist with this purpose or (ii) outside personnel. No later than March 15, 2022, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, the House Appropriations Committee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division on the following information:

- a. All persons and entities contracted with by public school units receiving funds to identify and locate missing students pursuant to this subdivision and the amounts provided to each person or entity.
- b. Outcomes resulting from the program, including the number of missing students identified and located in each public school unit.

These funds must be fully expended by September 2024. Missing students are defined as the number of students PSUs reported in the 2020-2021 Consolidated Data Reports for dropout count grades 1-13 from [Table 8](#). A “dropout” is defined in the North Carolina Dropout Data Collection and Reporting Procedures documentation as an individual who was enrolled in school at some time during the reporting year, was not enrolled on day 20 of the current year, has not graduated from high school or completed a state or district approved educational program, and does not meet any of the following reporting exclusions: 1) transferred to another public school district, private school, home school or state/district approved educational program (not including programs at community colleges), 2) temporarily absent due to suspension or school approved illness, or 3) death. The dropout count is different from the dropout rate due it includes all students in grades 1-13 while the reported dropout rate only includes students in grades 9-13.

The allocation was then proportionately allocated based on the number of students reported. Funding was not provided to PSUs who reported zero dropouts. Based on this formula, 148 PSUs were eligible to receive the funding. Of the 148 eligible PSUs, 92 (62%) waived the funding or did not meet the deadline to apply, and 56 (38%) PSUs accepted the allocation. The allocation was administered through PRC 191.

Results

As of August 31, 2022, two PSUs, Duplin and Johnston Counties, have reported expenditures for identifying and locating students.

Local Education Agency	LEA Name	Allotment	Expenditure
310	Duplin County Schools	77,756.00	2,240.00
510	Johnston County Public Schools	182,870.00	81,708.42

PSUs who have expended funds here is the vendor they are using amount expended as of August 31st and the number of students identified and located.

Local Education Agency	LEA Name	Dropouts	Vendor	Number Located
310	Duplin County Schools	108	Antonio Frederick	32
510	Johnston County Public Schools	254	Frontline Technologies Group	0

PSUs who have accepted the allocation and not yet expended any funds are below:

LEA	LEA Name	Dropouts	Allotment
020	Alexander County Schools	29	20,879.00
060	Avery County Schools	10	7,200.00
070	Beaufort County Schools	53	38,158.00
120	Burke County Schools	75	53,997.00
130	Cabarrus County Schools	325	233,987.00
160	Carteret County Public Schools	63	45,358.00
170	Caswell County Schools	8	5,760.00
182	Newton Conover City Schools	28	20,159.00

190	Chatham County Schools	40	28,798.00
230	Cleveland County Schools	185	133,193.00
240	Columbus County Schools	43	30,958.00
241	Whiteville City Schools	27	19,439.00
260	Cumberland County Schools	177	127,433.00
291	Lexington City Schools	17	12,239.00
292	Thomasville City Schools	42	30,238.00
300	Davie County Schools	49	35,278.00
320	Durham Public Schools	416	299,504.00
330	Edgecombe County Public Schools	43	30,958.00
340	Winston Salem / Forsyth County Schools	531	382,300.00
350	Franklin County Schools	58	41,758.00
360	Gaston County Schools	250	179,990.00
390	Granville County Schools	77	55,437.00
400	Greene County Schools	9	6,480.00
410	Guilford County Schools	687	494,613.00
450	Henderson County Schools	85	61,197.00
490	Iredell-Statesville Schools	188	135,353.00
530	Lee County Schools	54	38,878.00
560	Macon County Schools	29	20,879.00
590	McDowell County Schools	64	46,078.00
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	963	693,323.00
630	Moore County Schools	23	16,559.00
660	Northampton County Schools	15	10,799.00
670	Onslow County Schools	133	95,755.00
680	Orange County Schools	46	33,118.00
681	Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools	13	9,359.00

700	Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools	40	28,798.00
740	Pitt County Schools	118	84,955.00
761	Asheboro City Schools	36	25,919.00
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	138	99,355.00
820	Sampson County Schools	78	56,157.00
821	Clinton City Schools	36	25,919.00
830	Scotland County Schools	68	48,957.00
840	Stanly County Schools	77	55,437.00
860	Surry County Schools	95	68,396.00
861	Elkin City Schools	5	3,600.00
862	Mount Airy City Schools	15	10,799.00
910	Vance County Schools	19	13,679.00
920	Wake County Schools	689	496,053.00
930	Warren County Schools	23	16,559.00
940	Washington County Schools	5	3,600.00
960	Wayne County Public Schools	241	173,511.00
970	Wilkes County Schools	79	56,877.00
980	Wilson County Schools	140	100,795.00
24B	Thomas Academy	1	720.00

Conclusion

Due to funding being available for expenditure through September 30, 2024, many PSUs have not consumed funds to locate and identify missing students. This may also indicate a lack of critical need in this area as PSUs may have systems in place to identify, notify, and intervene for chronic absences that lead to students who may ultimately become a dropout. A majority of the districts are yet to spend this funding to identify and locate missing students. These funds will be expended over the remaining time to identify and locate missing students.