



## **9000 PROGRAMS WITH OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

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## 9000 PROGRAMS WITH OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

**9000 PROGRAMS WITH OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS:** Transfers of payments to other school districts or to non-public schools for services provided to students residing in the sending city or town.

**9100 Tuition to Mass. Schools** Tuition or transfer payments to other public school districts in Massachusetts for resident students, Tuition to non member Collaboratives, Tuition to non member Regional School Districts.

**9110 School Choice Tuition** Transfers made by the state from the sending school district's State Aid to the receiving school district or municipality.

**9120 Tuition to Commonwealth Charter Schools** Transfers made by the state from the sending school district's State Aid to the Charter School.

**9200 Tuition to Out-of-State Schools** Tuition or transfer payments to school districts in other states for resident students

**9300 Tuition to Non-Public Schools** Tuition or transfer payments to non-public schools for resident students

**9400 Tuition to Collaboratives** Payments of assessments to member Collaboratives for administrative and instructional services in accordance with collaborative agreements.

### Regular Education Out of District Tuitions

Currently there are several alternative public school programs available across the commonwealth for students who do not attend the local district. The educational options for students are School Choice program, Charter School Initiatives, Innovation Schools Initiative, and regional agricultural, vocational and technical schools. Below is an overview of the programs in which Lexington resident students have taken advantage of in the past. Due to the small numbers of students who attend these programs (less than 4 per year), reporting is not provided on a regular basis and only is only in this format. Below is a five-year history of the tuition assessments received by the Town of Lexington through the Cherry Sheet.

#### Innovation Schools<sup>1</sup>

In January 2010, Governor Patrick signed education reform legislation forming "The Innovation School" model.<sup>2</sup> It is projected to be cost-neutral with regard to the longer-term operation of school department. However, the school district must create a new line item appropriation as the tuition is not charged against the Cherry Sheet as other state education initiatives are funded. The Town of Lexington after year one will receive \$6,800 in tuition dollars through Chapter 70 formula calculations. The first year there is not reimbursement. The school department will have to annually budget for these expenses. The Innovation Schools receive their tuition dollars directly from the school district in the form of tuition payments. The tuition payments are not treated as an expense offset like Charter Schools.<sup>3</sup>

In FY12, we have only had one student register and attend one of the state's programs. Since that time the programs have not added any Lexington students.

#### Cherry Sheet Tuition Assessments:

The Town receives three types of tuition assessment for educating Lexington resident students. These are School Choice, Charter Schools and Essex Agricultural and Technical High School. While these amounts are not shown or reported in the School Department's appropriation, the Town is responsible for the education of these

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 12 of the Acts of 2010, An Act Relative to the Achievement Gap, was signed into law on January 18, 2010, and took effect immediately. Among other things, this legislation created a new statute, M.G.L. c. 71, § 92, establishing and governing innovation schools. At its July 21, 2010, meeting, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) adopted new regulations, 603 CMR 48.00, to implement this statute.

<sup>2</sup> Innovation Schools Statute: [http://www.mass.gov/Eoedu/docs/innovation\\_schools/20101020\\_faq.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eoedu/docs/innovation_schools/20101020_faq.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Innovation Schools FAQ: [http://www.mass.gov/Eoedu/docs/innovation\\_schools/20101020\\_faq.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eoedu/docs/innovation_schools/20101020_faq.pdf)



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students. The Schools are required to submit actual enrollment reports to Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in October and March of the current year. These figures are used to calculate tuition rates for the current year. Any changes to enrollment figures and tuition rates will alter a district's remaining assessments.

Cherry Sheet Tuition Assessments	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015 Governor's Budget (H1)
1) Special Education <i>Ch. 71B, ss. 10, 12</i>			\$ 24,112	\$ 24,322	\$ 16,655	
2) School Choice Sending Tuition <i>Ch. 76, s. 12B, 1993, Ch. 71</i>		\$ 7,600	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 16,559	
3) Charter School Sending Tuition <i>Ch. 71, s. 89</i>	\$ 14,743	\$ 28,047		\$ 33,036	\$ 29,968	
4) Essex County Technical Institute Sending Tuition <i>1998, Ch. 300, s. 21</i>		\$ 12,290		\$ 12,475	\$ 12,553	
	\$ 14,743	\$ 47,937	\$ 49,112	\$ 94,833	\$ 75,735	

It is unknown at this time what if any impact there will be for the FY15 budget. The school district will not have confirmed FY15 enrollment until mid-January 2015. This section will be updated as information becomes available.

**Special Education Assessment**

The assessment is to partially reimburse the state for providing special needs education to children enrolled in state hospital schools.

**Schools Choice<sup>4</sup>**

"The school choice program allows parents to send their children to schools in communities other than the city or town in which they reside. Tuition is paid by the sending district to the receiving district. Districts may elect not to enroll school choice students if no space is available."

Students have attended the following school districts, whereby we have received assessments from Hudson Public Schools, Triton Regional High School, and Chelmsford Public Schools.

*Lexington Public Schools<sup>5</sup>*  
**School Choice Trends in Enrollment and Tuition**  
**LEXINGTON**

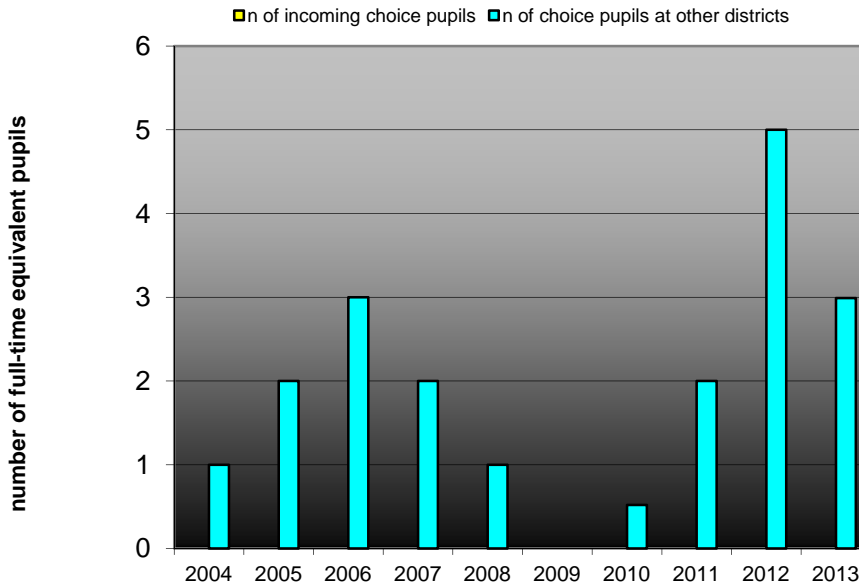
155

FY	---Receiving---		---Sending---	
	FTE		FTE	
	Pupils	Tuition	Pupils	Tuition
2004	0.00	0	1.00	4,861
2005	0.00	0	2.00	9,727
2006	0.00	0	3.00	14,536
2007	0.00	0	2.00	9,986
2008	0.00	0	1.00	4,955
2009	0.00	0	0.00	0
2010	0.00	0	0.52	2,600
2011	0.00	0	2.00	10,000
2012	0.00	0	5.00	25,000
2013	0.00	0	2.99	14,950

<sup>4</sup> Ch. 76, §12B, 1993, Ch. 71 and <http://finance1.doe.mass.edu/schoice/>  
<sup>5</sup> Source: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/schoolchoice/choicehist.xls>



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**Charter Schools<sup>6</sup>**

“Charter schools are independent public schools designed to encourage innovative educational practices. Charter schools are funded by tuition charges assessed against the school districts where the students reside. The state provides partial reimbursement to the sending districts for the tuition costs incurred.”

We have had students attending the following school districts whereby we have received assessments:<sup>7</sup>

**Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education**  
**Office of School Finance**

Projected FY14 Charter School Tuition Payments and Reimbursements for Sending Districts (Q1)(h)

LEA	DISTRICT	FTE	DISTRICT PAYMENT			STATE AID TO DISTRICT			NET DISTRICT COST
			LOCAL FOUNDATION TUITION	LOCAL FACILITIES TUITION	LOCAL PAYMENT	100/25/25/25 INCREASED TUITION AID (62% of Actual)	FACILITIES AID	TOTAL CHARTER AID	
155	LEXINGTON	2.0	28,182	1,786	29,968	4,699	1,786	6,485	23,483

The following are Charter School Placements:

FY14	Innovation Academy		
FY13	Innovation Academy	Pre-Enrolled	unknown
FY12	Innovation Academy	Partial Year	unknown
FY11	Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter	Pre-enrolled	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade
	Benjamin Banneker Charter Public	Pre-enrolled	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade

<sup>6</sup> Ch. 71, §89, 2004, Ch. 352, §31 and <http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/finance/>

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/enrollment/FY11\\_dist.xls](http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/enrollment/FY11_dist.xls)



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FY10	Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter	Pre-enrolled	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
FY09	Codman Academy Charter	Pre-enrolled	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade
FY08	Atlantis Charter	waitlisted	
FY07	Atlantis Charter	waitlisted	
FY06	Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter	Pre-enrolled	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
	Francis W. Parker Charter Essential	waitlisted	

**Essex Agricultural and Technical High School**<sup>8</sup>

“The primary purpose of an agricultural high school is to prepare students for occupations or additional education related to agriculture, agriscience, agribusiness, the care and management of animals, horticulture, forestry, and environmental science. While agricultural high schools may offer other forms of vocational-technical education, as defined in M.G.L. c. 74, § 1, they shall avoid duplication of programs offered in vocational schools located within a 20-mile radius of the school.” Periodically, students who are interested in programs that are not available at Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School enroll. The district is responsible for tuition and transportation expenses. The Regular Education Transportation Budget is impacted by any student who attends, as transportation is not reimbursed under the Chapter 70 aid on the Cherry Sheet, only tuition.

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<sup>8</sup> 1998, Ch. 300, §21 and <http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/603cmr45.html>



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**Special Education Out-of-District Budget**

**Coordinator: Barbara Bennett-Fortier**

Students with disabilities ages 2 years and 9 months to 22 who are unable to be educated within the public schools are entitled to a free and appropriate public education. When a student cannot receive appropriate services within LPS, services are provided in other settings including collaborative and private schools. There are associated transportation costs and specialized care for some of our most needy students. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has developed a form of reimbursement, Circuit-breaker, which provides some fiscal support for high cost students.

Tuition is monitored by the Out-of-District Coordinator who reports to the Director of Special Education. As a student's intensive needs become identified and services within the district cannot provide for that student then the Out-of-District Coordinator is called to meet with the team and parents to plan for the student's placement in the least restrictive placement/environment.

The Out-of-District Coordinator is the liaison for the student's IEP and provides case management of all aspects of the student's program. Costs are monitored through the Director of Special Education.

The out-of-district budget is based on the placement information contained in the table on the next page.

The appropriation to the School Department Budget for Tuitions is \$4,837,806. This amount is derived by the following:

	Sum of FY15 ATM Budget Head Count	Sum of FY15 ATM tuition projection	Sum of FY15 current head count	Sum of Current FY15 estimated tuition	Sum of FY16 ATM Headcount	Sum of Projected FY16 tuition
Estimated tuition	99	\$ 7,747,810	\$ 123	\$ 8,285,522	\$ 126	\$ 8,835,023
Reduction to High Risk (budgeted at 50%)						\$ (773,580)
Less LABBB Credit						\$ (250,000)
Less CB reimbursement		\$ (2,950,251)		\$ (3,028,763)		\$ (2,973,637)
Operating Budget	99	\$ 4,797,559	123	\$ 5,256,759	126	\$ 4,837,806
Change				\$ (459,200)		\$ 40,247

Line #	Program	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	FY15 ATM	FY16 Request	Change	% Change
41	TUITION	\$ 3,847,667	\$ 4,420,666	\$ 4,415,327	\$ 4,797,559	\$ 4,782,238	\$ (15,321)	-0.32%

- Tuition rates for approved special education private day and residential schools are set by the Operational Services Division (OSD) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Administration and Finance.
- Each year the OSD provides an estimated rate of inflation which is used to project tuition for approved special education private day and residential placements. For FY16 the new rate is 1.43%
- With the exception of extraordinary relief or other unusual circumstances, private schools may request the additional increases in the form of special circumstances or program reconstruction. Private schools must provide the required notice to public schools by the October 1<sup>st</sup> for the following fiscal year. The State can approve increases anytime during that following fiscal year. In such instances the requested increase is budgeted in the event such should occur.
- Collaborative tuition increases are recommended to the Collaborative Board of Directors based on program costs and budget presentations. The Collaborative Board of Directors is made up of member district Superintendents. For the last several years a 4% increase has been assumed for Collaborative



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tutions. Additionally, a 4% increase has been assumed for OSD approved out-of state private schools as the rate increases are not set by OSD but rather the respective state agency where the school is located.

- Collaborative programs also tuition-in students from non-member districts. Non-member districts pay a higher tuition than member districts. Lexington will only send students to non-member collaboratives, when it is programmatically appropriate.
- The circuit breaker reimbursement amount is always an estimate. The estimate is based on the number of students who are in school until graduation or turn 22 prior to the end of the school year. The estimate reflects actual time spent in the program and tuition paid. Not all student placements meet the circuit breaker threshold for reimbursement. The reimbursement rate, set by DESE, is also variable.

DOE Function Code	DOE Function Title	program type	Values					
			Sum of FY15 ATM Budget Head Count	Sum of FY15 ATM tuition projection	Sum of FY15 current head count	Sum of Current FY15 estimated tuition	Sum of FY16 ATM Headcount	Sum of Projected FY16 tuition
9100	Tuition to Mass. Sc	day	6	\$ 288,942	7	\$ 361,477	6	\$ 373,968
		extended services				\$ 4,000		\$ 2,080
		short term					2	\$ 22,479
		summer		\$ 48,985	1	\$ 18,395		\$ 39,749
		day			1	\$ 56,398	1	\$ 81,213
		<b>Tuition to Mass. Schools Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 337,927</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$ 440,271</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>9100 Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 337,927</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$ 440,271</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$ 519,489</b>	
9200	Tuition to Out-of-St	residential	2	\$ 303,994	2	\$ 289,459	2	\$ 298,085
		summer				\$ 13,950		
		<b>Tuition to Out-of-State Schools Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 303,994</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 303,409</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 298,085</b>
<b>9200 Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 303,994</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 303,409</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 298,085</b>	
9300	Tuition to Non-Publ	1:1 Aide		\$ 42,236		\$ 15,600		\$ 3,035
		day	49	\$ 3,032,380	57	\$ 3,107,851	54	\$ 3,130,520
		PT				\$ 2,640		\$ 514
		residential	10	\$ 2,406,621	13	\$ 2,545,932	13	\$ 2,485,534
		short term			4	\$ 59,367	6	\$ 68,770
		summer		\$ 55,817		\$ 45,121	2	\$ 200,399
		summer						
		summer program (blank)	1	\$ 4,873	1	\$ 4,800		\$ 39,555
<b>Tuition to Non-Public Schools Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>\$ 5,541,928</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>\$ 5,781,311</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>\$ 5,928,326</b>		
<b>9300 Total</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>\$ 5,541,928</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>\$ 5,781,311</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>\$ 5,928,326</b>	
9400	Tuition to Collabor	bus monitor				\$ 8,772		\$ 9,123
		day	30	\$ 1,272,614	34	\$ 1,453,445	35	\$ 1,623,484
		extended services		\$ 13,107	1	\$ 70,210		\$ 87,623
		short term					2	\$ 22,428
		summer		\$ 163,322		\$ 148,509		\$ 173,021
		summer & day	1	\$ 56,559				
		summer-LESP		\$ 58,360	1	\$ 58,126	1	\$ 114,095
		tuition			1	\$ 21,468	1	\$ 59,349
<b>Tuition to Collaboratives Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>\$ 1,563,962</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>\$ 1,760,532</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>\$ 2,089,122</b>		
<b>9400 Total</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>\$ 1,563,962</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>\$ 1,760,532</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>\$ 2,089,122</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>99</b>	<b>\$ 7,747,810</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>\$ 8,285,522</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>\$ 8,835,023</b>	

\$ 1,087,212

	Sum of FY15 ATM Budget Head Count	Sum of FY15 ATM tuition projection	Sum of FY15 current head count	Sum of Current FY15 estimated tuition	Sum of FY16 ATM Headcount	Sum of Projected FY16 tuition	
Estimated tuition	99	\$ 7,747,810	\$ 123	\$ 8,285,522	\$ 126	\$ 8,835,023	14.03%
Reduction to High Risk (budgeted at 50%)						\$ (773,580)	
Less LABBB Credit						\$ (250,000)	
Less CB reimbursement		\$ (2,950,251)		\$ (3,028,763)		\$ (3,029,205)	
Operating Budget	99	\$ 4,797,559	123	\$ 5,256,759	126	\$ 4,782,238	-0.32%
Change				\$ (459,200)		\$ (15,321)	

- The out-of-district tuition for FY16 is projected to decrease by -\$15,321 (-0.32%). The overall number of FY15 students out-of-district and in our high-risk category is now 99. The FY16 budget includes funds for 123 out-of-district students (nine of the twenty-four new students moved into Lexington after the FY16 budget was voted at the Annual Town Meeting). In FY16, we will begin budgeting the "high-risk" students at 50% of the potential out-of-district tuition versus funding them at 100%, which was used in



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prior budgets. Based on FY14 history of expenditures for “high-risk” in-district students, we now have sufficient data to show that funding 100% of these students as out-of-district students resulted in significant surpluses at the end of the fiscal year. In FY14, we budgeted \$1,645,452 for 25 high-risk students and spent \$728,910 (44% of the budget). The 100% budgeting assumption resulted in a \$916,542 surplus. The change in methodology results in -\$773,580 being removed from the projection along with LABBB credit of \$250,000 and projected circuit breaker, the overall budget line for the operating budget is reduced.