

**POLICY 13**

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS/NONPUBLIC AGENCY  
POOL CRITERIA**

*Adopted by Superintendents' Council 6/1/98*

*Revised 5/3/99, 4/2/01, 5/14/01, 5/12/03, 9/13/04, 3/6/06, 6/7/10, 10/4/10*

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**SONOMA COUNTY SELPA****NONPUBLIC SCHOOL/NONPUBLIC AGENCY POOL CRITERIA**

The SELPA will determine eligibility for NPS/A Pool Dollars (NPS/A Committee was disbanded in 2005-2006).

The SELPA will review year district's claim for reimbursement three (3) times per year based on the criteria.

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS (NPSs):**

1. Dollars, which may include but not be limited to NPS pool dollars, be set aside to develop early intervention and preventative programs.
2. Ongoing monitoring of NPSs and technical assistance to be provided by the SELPA for program improvement purposes.
3. The following student population and criteria are recommended for consideration by the SELPA in verifying eligibility to access the NPS pool:
  - a. With few exceptions, all ED students reviewed by the SELPA Interagency Consultative Committee (ICC) and recommended for an NPS placement.
  - b. Students moving from a higher level of care to a lower level, such as from a residential placement to an NPS placement.
  - c. Students on an administrative placement with an active IEP that specifies an NPS placement.
  - d. Students placed in an NPS as a result of due process hearings/mediations, including an ADR mediation.
  - e. Students placed in an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) whose needs can be more appropriately met in a NPS.
  - f. Students placed in an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) who are unable to return to another public school setting and require an NPS placement.

- g. The elementary district is responsible for all costs associated with the Extended School Year program for a student matriculating from an elementary district to a high school district in the fall.

NONPUBLIC AGENCIES (NPAs):

1. Compliant with SELPA TSA Policy, implementation and training to include administrators, teachers, parents, and support staff.
2. The reimbursement of a Temporary Support Assistant (TSA) will be reimbursed at the reimbursement percentage according to the following criteria:
  - a. Behavior Assistant:  
Behavior assistants are defined as individuals necessary to implement behavior intervention activities based on a behavior implementation plan. "Behavior intervention" means the design, implementation, and evaluation of individual or group instructional and environmental modifications, including programs of behavioral instruction, to produce significant improvements in human behavior through skill acquisition and the reduction of problematic behavior." A "behavior intervention plan" is a written document that is developed when the individual exhibits a serious behavior problem that significantly interferes with the implementation of the goals and objectives of the individual's IEP.
  - b. Medically Fragile Assistant:  
Assistants for medically fragile students are defined as individuals necessary to implement specialized health care procedures under the direction of a physician or school nurse as well as to perform supportive physical activities such as feeding, lifting, and toileting. Medically fragile students have a physical disability that is life threatening and requires monitoring, interpretation, or intervention. These students may also be technology dependent and require a medical device to compensate for the loss of a vital body function.
  - c. Custodial Assistants:  
Custodial assistants are defined as individuals necessary to perform custodial and other supportive physical activities such as feeding, lifting, and toileting. Conditions resulting in severe orthopedic impairments include, but are not limited to, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, spinal cord injuries, head trauma, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, and tumors. A severe orthopedic impairment is persistent and significantly restricts an individual's normal physical development, movement, and activities of daily living.

- d. All TSAs above must be assigned 1:1 to a given student. In some cases, if it is more cost effective and efficient for an assistant to be assigned to more than one student, the cost of that assistant can be reimbursed. The need for the service must be necessary to enable the student to attend school and must be specified in the IEP. Reimbursement for bus aides for behavior and medical reasons will be allowed.