



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff Compliance

2023

Authorizing Legislation: [RCW 28A.300.476](#)

T.J. Kelly

Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by:

- **Michelle Matakas**, Director, School Apportionment and Financial Services
michelle.matakas@k12.wa.us | 360-725-6019

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

House Bill (HB) 1664 (2022) increased allocations for specific types of personnel in the prototypical school funding model. The bill also required that funding allocated to schools for physical, social, and emotional support staff (PSES staff) be spent on those staff. The bill requires the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to submit a report to the Legislature analyzing the implementation of RCW 28A.150.260 (5)(b), related to PSES staff.

BACKGROUND

The 2022 Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 1664, which increased allocations for specific types of school staff in the prototypical school funding model. HB 1664 also required that funding, up to the combined minimum allocations, for physical, social, and emotional support (PSES) staff through the prototypical school funding model may be allocated only to the extent of and proportionate to a school district's demonstrated actual ratios of full-time equivalent PSES staff to full-time equivalent students.

"Physical, social, and emotional support staff" includes nurses, social workers, psychologists, counselors, classified staff providing student and staff safety, parent involvement coordinators, and other school district employees and contractors who provide physical, social, and emotional support to students as defined by OSPI. OSPI established rules in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 392-122-440 that further defines which staff can be included in districts' calculations for PSES compliance. School districts are required to prioritize funding allocated for PSES staff who hold a valid educational staff associate (ESA) certificate appropriate for the staff's role.

During this first year of implementation, starting February 2023, the analysis is to be completed only to the extent that data is available.

DATA

Local education agencies (LEAs) reported to OSPI all permanent staff in a preliminary report as of October 1, 2022. In addition, LEAs were given an opportunity to report supplemental staff, permanent staff hired after October 1, as well as all contractors working in physical, social, emotional, and health related roles for school year (SY) 2022–23. As of this reporting period, of 318 districts, charter schools, and state-tribal education compact schools, 47 LEAs reported supplemental PSES staff hired after October 1 and 114 LEAs reported contracting staff in PSES roles.

As of the date of this report, data is still preliminary for SY 2022–23 and not yet final for the first year of implementation.

As of February 1, 2023, OSPI estimates an approximate 3,573.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) physical, social, emotional, and support staff allocation for SY 2022–23. Statewide, LEAs reported a total of 6,595.2 FTEs serving students in these PSES roles.

Preliminary data is currently showing that statewide, 68 LEAs will not meet PSES compliance for SY 2022–23 for a total of (27.5) FTE allocated units deducted from their prototypical allocation. A state-level breakdown by position type is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: School Year 2022–23 Preliminary Compliance as of January 2023 Apportionment

Job Title / Position	Actual Staffing	Apportionment
Orientation & Mobility Specialist	4.428	-
Counselor	2,410.290	2,406.479
Occupational Therapist	145.490	-
Social Worker	173.883	210.441
Speech, Language Pathway/Audio	373.653	-
Psychologist	285.740	73.600
Nurse	582.952	578.228
Physical Therapist	51.985	-
Behavior Analyst	23.462	-
Contractor ESA	47.861	-
Total Certificated Staff	4,099.744	3,268.748
Family Engagement Coordinator	105.644	112.024
Pupil Management & Safety	1,562.784	192.705
Health/Related Services	828.014	-
Total Classified Staff	2,496.442	304.729
ALL PSES Staff	6,596.186	3,573.477

Source: Results of the January 2023 Preliminary PSES Compliance Calculation, [OSPI website](#)

CONCLUSION

OSPI will next report on PSES compliance in 2025.

REFERENCES

The information used to calculate these values are found in the state allocation extract detail as calculated by OSPI and the Personnel Summary Reports, as reported by school districts. A district-level detail of Table 1 is [available as a spreadsheet on the OSPI website](#).

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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Chris Reykdal | State Superintendent
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Old Capitol Building | P.O. Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200