









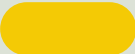


# State of Education Funding: Alabama

MEETS CRITERIA

PARTIALLY MEETS CRITERIA

DOESN'T MEET CRITERIA

RATING		REASON FOR RATING
<b>FUND STUDENTS ADEQUATELY</b>		
The funding formula is student-based, or weighted		The formula is resource-based
Per-pupil funding is adequate enough for all students to achieve average, national test scores		There is high percentage of students attending schools in inadequately funded districts
<b>FUND STUDENT NEEDS APPROPRIATELY</b>		
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for students living in poverty		The formula allocates funding based on the number of English learners in a district, not students' learning needs
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for English learners		The formula only provides a small amount of increased funding for students from low-income households via a prorated amount based on student count
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for students with disabilities		The formula assumes a 5% SPED population, at most, for districts and provides additional funding to districts only for high-cost SPED services
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for sparse and/or isolated districts		The formula does not include a sparsity weight

<p><b>Formula includes weights or additional funding for districts with high levels of concentrated poverty</b></p>		<p>The formula does not include a weight for concentrated poverty</p>
<p><b>FUND SCHOOL DISTRICTS EQUITABLY</b></p>		
<p><b>State caps how much local revenue districts can raise to limit between-district disparities in local revenue</b></p>		<p>The formula sets a cap on local property tax rates and sets a level above which school districts may not raise property taxes without voter approval</p>
<p><b>FUND STUDENTS TRANSPARENTLY</b></p>		
<p><b>State annually publishes information about how the funding system is designed to work in clear, plain language</b></p>		<p>The state education department publishes a school funding guide, but it is not user friendly</p>
<p><b>State reports school spending data in alignment with equity-oriented principles</b></p>		<p>The state reports are not aligned with equity-oriented school spending reporting principles</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC FUNDS FUND PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b></p>		
<p><b>Taxpayer funds are used to maintain and support public schools exclusively</b></p>		<p>The state has various scholarship tax credits and an education savings account program that is available to all families regardless of income</p>