

State of Education Funding: Mississippi

MEETS CRITERIA

PARTIALLY MEETS CRITERIA

DOESN'T MEET CRITERIA

RATING		REASON FOR RATING
FUND STUDENTS ADEQUATELY		
The funding formula is student-based, or weighted		The formula is a hybrid model
Per-pupil funding is adequate enough for all students to achieve average, national test scores		There is a moderate percentage of students attending schools in inadequately funded districts
FUND STUDENT NEEDS APPROPRIATELY		
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for students living in poverty		The formula includes a 5% weight for students living in poverty
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for English learners		The formula does not provide additional funding for English learners
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for students with disabilities		The state funds SPED by estimating the costs of special education staff positions based on district personnel reports from the prior year
Formula includes a weight or additional funding for sparse and/or isolated districts		The state provides increased funding for sparse school districts through the state's transportation funding system instead of being provided as a per-student weight; also funding is provided based on historical, rather than current sparsity levels, not reflecting current costs

Formula includes weights or additional funding for districts with high levels of concentrated poverty		The formula does not include a weight for concentrated poverty
FUND SCHOOL DISTRICTS EQUITABLY		
State caps how much local revenue districts can raise to limit between-district disparities in local revenue		The formula sets a cap on local property tax rates, but allows higher rates to be set for debt repayments
FUND STUDENTS TRANSPARENTLY		
State annually publishes information about how the funding system is designed to work in clear, plain language		The state education department publishes several documents about the funding system; the document that summarizes the funding system is not easy to locate on the website
State reports school spending data in alignment with equity-oriented principles		The state reports are partially aligned with equity-oriented school spending reporting principles
PUBLIC FUNDS FUND PUBLIC SCHOOLS		
Taxpayer funds are used to maintain and support public schools exclusively		The state has an ESA program and scholarships for students with disabilities