General Information

• Count Day is when all public schools in Michigan tally the number of students attending their schools.

• Count information is critical to districts, because each student who is enrolled and in attendance on count day translates into state funding as it is based on number of students legally enrolled on or before count day.

• The count days and school funding are mandated through the Section 6 of the State School Aid Act.

• The amount of state aid funding allotted to districts is based on a blended count that is derived from the number of students reported during the prior spring and the current fall count days. In other words, the blended count calculation is based on count data collected during the same calendar year rather than school year.
  
  o For example, the 2015-2016 school year allocation is based on the 2015 Spring Count (February) and the 2015 Fall Count (October).

• The Spring count occurs on the 2nd Wednesday in February and represent 10% of state funding.

• The Fall count occurs on the 1st Wednesday in October and represent 90% of state funding.

Students Included in Membership

• Students who are enrolled and in attendance during the scheduled instructional day, who are together with a certificated teacher or legally qualified substitute teacher and instruction is taking place.

• If student is not in attendance (or in partial attendance) on count day, the district may count the student in membership if:
  
  o The student was excused from attendance on count day and returned to attend each of the classes in which the student was enrolled within 30 calendar days after the count day.

  o The student was unexcused from attendance on count day and returned to attend each of the classes in which the student was enrolled within 10 consecutive school days immediately following the count day.

  o The student was enrolled and in attendance in the district before the count day but was expelled or suspended on the count day and resumed attendance in the district within 45 days after the count day.

  Note: Local school boards distinguish between excused and unexcused.

Possible ways school districts can maintain or increase student counts:

• Encourage students to attend on count day.

• Being vigilant to identify and report students absent on count day.

• Attract and retain new and prior students.

• Prevent or reduce the number of students dropping out of school.

Count Day Schedule

• 2015-16 School Year (Ending June 30, 2016)
  
  o Spring Count – February 11, 2015 = 10%.
    
    • Count data submitted by districts to ISDs by March 18, 2015.
    
    • Verified by ISD and sent to State, July 29, 2015.
2015-16 Student Count Day and School Funding Information

- Fall Count – October 7, 2015 = 90%.
  - Count data submitted by districts to ISDs by November 18, 2015.
  - Audited by ISDs and sent to Department by March 23, 2016.

Schools have 6 weeks to submit certified student count information to the ISD. The ISD has 24 weeks from the count date to provide the audited student counts to the state.

**School Cancellation on Count Day**
- If school is cancelled on count day due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, with the approval of the State Superintendent, a school must use the next day the school is in session. (Note: If the condition impacts multiple districts, a statewide waiver could be considered.)

**School, District and ISD Information**
- [Number of Schools, Districts, ISDs and PSAs in Michigan](#)
- [School District Demographics](#)
- [School District Maps](#)
- [School Statistics (CEPI)](#)

**Public School Finance Information Links**
- [State Aid Payment Calculation](#)
- [State Aid Payment Information](#)
- [Performance Based Funding Status](#)
- [Deficit District Information and Required Forms](#)
- [Current Year LEA Millage Rates](#)
- [Public School Finance Information](#)
- [School Statistics - CEPI](#)
- [Pupil Accounting Information](#)
- [Public School Accounting](#)