



SSCA Webinar

February 2, 2022



ODLSS

Office of DIVERSE LEARNER
SUPPORTS + SERVICES

Core Commitments

Academic Progress

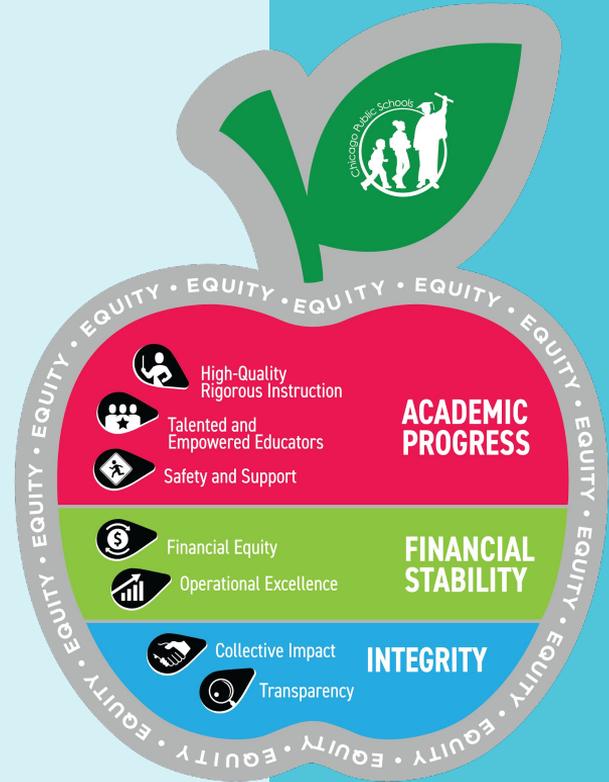
In young people, a high-quality education develops not only strong academic skills, but also a love of learning, the ability to work with others, the motivation to take initiative, the experience to solve problems creatively, the knowledge to live healthy lives, and the desire to become active citizens in their communities. We will design instruction and learning environments that provide for individual needs and help prepare all of our students for a successful adulthood.

Financial Stability

Fulfilling our promise to provide a high-quality education requires that we remain on sound financial footing and serve as good stewards of public and philanthropic funds. We will advocate with the wider Chicago community for fair school funding from the state so all of Chicago's children receive the educational resources they need and deserve.

Integrity

We respect our students and families, and the diverse communities in which they live, and honor them as partners in our shared mission. We will earn their trust by communicating openly and consistently acting on community feedback.



Office of Diverse Learners Supports and Services (ODLSS)

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ODLSS' **Mission** is to provide equitable, individualized education for ALL students with disabilities across learning environments through convergence with leaders, educators, families, and community partners.

ODLSS' **Vision** is to have successful partnerships with ALL stakeholders while supporting students with disabilities in order to reach their full potential in all areas of development.

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Student Specific Corrective Action (SSCA)



What is Student Specific Corrective Action?

In the fall of 2017, the Illinois State Board of Education opened a Public Inquiry into certain special education procedures that were in effect in the District during the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years. As a result of the Public Inquiry, ISBE found that some of the challenged procedures may have caused violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for some students. ISBE issued a Corrective Action Report directing CPS to identify students whose services were delayed or denied as a result of these procedures and offer them opportunities to remedy the delay or denial when appropriate.

How were students affected by these violations?

Because of these violations, students may have had special education services delayed or denied. These services could include:

- Transportation
- Paraprofessional services
- Extended School Year (ESY) services
- Identification as a student with a Specific Learning Disability (SLD)
- Placement in a Therapeutic Day School
- Budget: An IEP team may have given a student a paraprofessional or a special education teacher, but the school was unable to hire anyone to fill these positions due to lack of funds in the school budget.

How Were the Students Identified?

To identify students for SSCA, CPS pulled data from Student Services Management (SSM) that could indicate a delay or denial of services due to the problematic procedural requirements that ISBE found. Students were identified for remedies in the areas of: extended school year (ESY) services, paraprofessional services, transportation services, identification as a student with a specific learning disability, and budget.



What are the Remedies?

As part of the revised SSCA guidelines, the District is offering monetary remedies called Universal Enrichment Remedies (UER) for all students identified as being possibly harmed by the delays and denials of services. Identified students are eligible up to \$4,000 dollars in Universal Enrichment Remedies per year.

The UER amounts are differentiated by category:

- Extended School Year (ESY) - \$800 per affected year
- Transportation - \$1,250 per affected year
- Paraprofessional - \$2,000 per affected year
- Specific Learning Disability - \$4,000 per affected year
- Budget - \$2,000 per affected year

How do I know if my child will get a remedy?

- Call the SSCA hotline at 773-553-1843
- Email us at ssca@cps.edu

You should have also received emails and letters from the District notifying you that your child is eligible. If you have not received communication from the District and feel that your child is eligible, please request a SSCA Meeting.



Claims Administrator

The District is hiring a Claims Administrator to help distribute the monetary remedies.

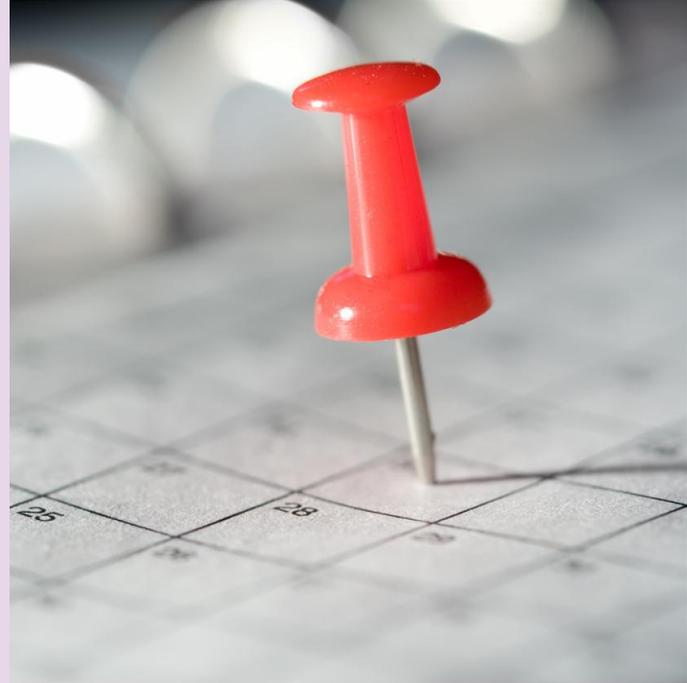


How to file a Claim

- By late January, you should have received a letter with specific instructions about how to claim your remedy. This letter will contain a Claim ID and a PIN number that you will need to file your claim.
- You will need to go to www.cps-ssca.com to file your claim. The website will be available at the beginning of the claims window on January 26, 2022.
- You will see the type of service that your student may have missed and the amount of the money offered to you as a remedy.
- You will have the opportunity to accept the remedy, decline the remedy, or ask for an SSCA meeting to see if your student may be entitled to a larger remedy.

Deadlines

- The claims window will OPEN on **January 26, 2022**.
- The claims window will CLOSE on **April 30, 2022**.
- If you do not file your claim by **April 30, 2022**, you will lose your remedy.



Public Benefits

If you are currently receiving public benefits, you should seek advice before accepting your UER and filing your claim.

Reach out to:

- Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities at (312) 744-7050
- Legal Aid Chicago at (312) 341-1070

If you are receiving public benefits and are concerned that accepting your UER will put your public benefits at risk, let us know. We can discuss service options instead of money as a remedy for your child.

What should I do if my child received a UER but I think it should be higher?

- Request an SSCA meeting by April 30 by calling the SSCA hotline, emailing ssca@cps.edu, or scanning the QR code which will be presented on a later slide.
- In the SSCA Meeting, you will meet with SSCA team members. A representative from the Illinois State Board of Education may also be there.
- You can discuss your concerns and reasons for a higher remedy with the SSCA team members.
- The SSCA team will determine if you are owed additional compensation due to the extent of the negative impact of the policies on your child's progress.
- If the SSCA team does not find that your child is entitled to more compensation, you can still claim the original UER.

What do I do if my child wasn't offered a UER, but I think they should have been?

Request an SSCA Meeting by April 30, 2022.

- In the SSCA Meeting, you will meet with SSCA team members. A representative from the Illinois State Board of Education may also be there.
- They will talk with you about any reasons you feel your child was negatively impacted by these policies, even if they weren't offered a UER.

Remember: your child must have been enrolled in CPS during the 2016-2017 or 2017-2018 school years to be eligible for SSCA.

How do I know if I should request an SSCA meeting?

You may want to request an SSCA meeting if you believe that, during the **2016-17 or 2017-18** school years:

- Your child should have received **transportation** services on their IEP, but they didn't.
- Your child should have received **extended school year** (summer school) services on their IEP, but they didn't.
- Your child should have received **paraprofessional** services on their IEP, but they didn't.
- Your child should have been identified as a student with a **specific learning disability**, but they weren't.
- Your child should have been placed in a **therapeutic day school**, but they weren't.
- Your child should have had a paraprofessional or a special education teacher, but they did not receive one due to school **budget limitations**.

How do I request an SSCA Meeting?

- Call the SSCA hotline at 773-553-1843
- Email us at ssca@cps.edu
- Scan this QR code



What should I use the remedy money for?

We strongly encourage you to use the money to buy educational services or materials for your child.

A few examples include:

- Music lessons
- Sports camps
- Therapy
- Tutoring
- Museum memberships
- Art classes
- Learning software
- Books

Other concerns?

Do you have concerns about other services, other years, or your student's current IEP?

If so, request an IEP meeting.



Where can I learn more about SSCA?

Who can I contact with questions?

Check out our website: cps.edu/ssca

Email SSCA: ssca@cps.edu

Call SSCA hotline: 773-553-1843

Email Illinois State Board of Education:
isbemonitor@isbe.net





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