



TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Gary M. Sherman/Adria Bace, Office of Special Education

SUBJECT: Agreement between Board of Regents, State of Iowa and Nebraska Department of Education for services to children and youth with hearing impairments

**Proposed Board Action:**

Grant the Commissioner authority to continue with the agreement between the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, on behalf of the Iowa School for the Deaf, and the Nebraska Department of Education for the provision of educational and residential services to a small number of Nebraska children and youth with hearing impairments.

**Background Information:**

Agreements with the Iowa Board of Regents have been processed annually beginning in 1998 following the State Board's approval of the plan for "Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing." The Plan was reviewed, revised and approved in 2004 and includes implementation through agreements with the Nebraska Regional Deaf/Hard of Hearing Network and the Iowa School for the Deaf.

Through the Agreement with the Iowa Board of Regents, NDE has agreed to serve as the "single source payer" for Nebraska students attending the Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD). NDE has initiated an agreement for collection of tuition with each school district sending a student to ISD for educational/residential services based on the Individual Education Plan (IEP) processed by the district and agreement of the district to meet Rule 51 requirements. NDE then has made tuition payments to ISD from the district funds received (Cash Fund). Additionally, districts must apply to NDE for residential services at ISD which NDE pays directly from a combination of earmarked state appropriations received for deaf/hard of hearing services (Program 401) and/or Special Education Aid (Program 158/48). The annual Agreement includes a per student rate for Education/Related Services and for Residential/Dormitory Services. The rates for the 2012-13 school year continue to be based on actual costs for operation of the ISD program and the audited per pupil cost for Iowa students. Additionally, ISD coordinates transportation for Nebraska students on week-ends and that cost is the responsibility of the school district. During the 2011-12 school year, of the 780 children/youth reported as having a hearing impairment in Nebraska, 11 students attended ISD for the entire school year or a portion of the school year. It is anticipated there will be 10 students that will start the 2012-13 school year at ISD.

**Estimated Cost:**

Cost per Student:	2012-13	
Education/Related Services Rate	\$52,907	(+2,618 from 2011-12)
Residential/Dormitory Rate	\$35,994	(-2,432 from 2011-12)
Total Cost	\$88,901	(+186 from 2011-12)
Summer School Program (7/12)	\$ 514	weekly (+19 from 7/11)

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

None

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**For Additional Information on this item:**

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