HAL FUNDING CONSORTIUM FAQ

Q: Does consorting change the funding formula?

A: No. The formula works the same way as it does for individual districts. The difference is that calculations occur across the consortium rather than individually.:

- Base funds are generated per district.
- Matching funds are calculated on HAL-identified students (up to 10% of enrollment).
- A 50% local match is required.

Q: Does consorting increase funding?

A: Not automatically. Funding increases depends on student counts and local match capacity.Consorting:

- Pools base allocations.
- Aggregates HAL student counts.
- May create more flexible or sustainable funding structures.

Q: Who can serve as fiscal agent?

A: A fiscal agent may be one of the participating districts or an Educational Service Unit (ESU). The fiscal agent receives and manages all funds.

Q: Who submits reports?

A: The fiscal agent. The fiscal agent is responsible for:

- Submitting the HAL funding application
- Managing all accounting
- Completing required reporting
- Publishing and maintaining the HAL plan

Q: How is the local match handled in a consortium?

A: The consortium must provide at least 50% of the state matching funds in local dollars. Local match may be split among the participating districts. The specific contribution structure must be defined in a local MOU.

Q: Can a district withdraw from a consortium mid-year?

A: No. Once the Intent to Consort Form is submitted and accepted, the consortium arrangement is binding for that school year.

Q: Is a Rule 3 HAL funding consortium the same as an ESU consortium?

A: No. A HAL funding consortium is a state funding structure in which all funds are awarded to one fiscal agent. An ESU consortium typically involves districts paying membership fees to receive services. These are separate structures and may operate independently. Districts may participate in a Rule 3 consortium, ESU consortium, both, or neither.

Q: If I have additional questions, who do I contact?

A: Contact the High Ability Learning Specialist at the NDE.

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