

Enrollment Determination for State Aid; House Sub. for SB 73

House Sub. for SB 73 amends certain enrollment determination criteria in the Kansas School Equity and Enhancement Act (KSEEA) to require school district enrollment to be determined using the current or preceding school year. The bill also authorizes an additional enrollment count determination for school year 2024-2025 only, to allow school districts to consider the arithmetic mean of the sum of the number of students enrolled in the preceding school year and second-preceding school year.

Enrollment Determination for State Aid

Current Determination Requirements

Under current requirements in KSEEA, school districts and the State Department of Education (KSDE) use the student enrollment count from the preceding year to determine state aid entitlements for the current school year. The law further allows any school district that experienced a decrease in enrollment between the second-preceding school year and the preceding school year to use the second-preceding year enrollment count.

The law also provides enrollment determination provisions specific to school districts that receive federal impact aid for the enrollment of military students that experience a decrease in enrollment between the second-preceding school year and the preceding school year. Those school districts are permitted to determine enrollment using either the second-preceding school year enrollment count or the arithmetic mean of the preceding, second-preceding year, and third-preceding year school year enrollment counts.

Definition of Enrollment

The bill amends the definition of “enrollment” under the KSEEA to require KSDE and school districts to use the greater of the preceding-year enrollment for kindergarten and grades 1 through 12 on September 20, as well as current-year preschool-aged at-risk students, or the current-year enrollment count for these same student groups.

The bill further amends the definition to add an additional consideration for enrollment count that would be applicable only for school year 2024-2025. The bill permits school districts to use whichever is the greater of the current year and the arithmetic mean of the sum of the preceding and second-preceding year enrollment counts.

Impact aid. The bill also amends the enrollment determination requirements specific to school districts that receive federal impact aid. Under the bill, such districts could determine enrollment using the current-year enrollment count; the preceding-year enrollment count; or the arithmetic mean of the preceding, second-preceding, and third-preceding year enrollment counts. [Note: The KSEEA calculation prescribed for local foundation aid was amended by 2022 HB 2567 to remove federal impact aid from the formula.]