FILING A CLAIM

1. Introduction

The law in the State of California, (GC Sections 17500 through 17617), provides for the reimbursement of costs incurred by community college districts (CCD) for costs mandated by the State. Costs mandated by the State means any increased costs which a CCD is required to incur after July 1, 1980, as a result of any statute enacted after January 1, 1975, or any executive order implementing such statute which mandates a new program or higher level of service of an existing program.

Estimated claims that show costs to be incurred in the current fiscal year and reimbursement claims that detail the costs actually incurred for the prior fiscal year may be filed with the State Controller's Office (SCO). Claims for on-going programs are filed annually by January 15. Claims for new programs are filed within 120 days from the date claiming instructions are issued for the program. A 10 percent penalty, up to $1,000 for continuing claims, no limit for initial claims, is assessed for late claims. The SCO may audit the records of any CCD to verify the actual amount of mandated costs and may reduce any claim that is excessive or unreasonable.

When a program has been reimbursed for three or more years, the Commission on State Mandates (COSM) may approve the program for inclusion in the State Mandates Apportionment System (SMAS). For programs included in SMAS, the SCO determines the amount of each claimant's entitlement based on an average of three consecutive fiscal years of actual costs adjusted by any changes in the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD). Claimants with an established entitlement receive an annual apportionment adjusted by any changes in the IPD and, under certain circumstances, by any changes in workload. Claimants with an established entitlement do not file further claims for the program.

The SCO is authorized to make payments for costs of mandated programs from amounts appropriated by the State Budget Act, by the State Mandates Claims Fund, or by specific legislation. In the event the appropriation is insufficient to pay claims in full, claimants will receive prorated payments in proportion to the dollar amount of approved claims for the program. Balances of prorated payments will be made when supplementary funds are made available.

The instructions contained in this manual are intended to provide general guidance for filing a mandated cost claim. Since each mandate is administered separately, it is important to refer to the specific program for information relating to established policies on eligible reimbursable costs.

2. Types of Claims

There are three types of claims: Reimbursement, estimated, and entitlement. A claimant may file a reimbursement claim for actual mandated costs incurred in the prior fiscal year or may file an estimated claim for mandated costs to be incurred during the current fiscal year. An entitlement claim may be filed for the purpose of establishing a base year entitlement amount for mandated programs included in SMAS. A claimant who has established a base year entitlement for a program, would receive an automatic annual payment which is reflective of the current costs for the program.

All claims received by the SCO will be reviewed to verify actual costs. An adjustment of the claim will be made if the amount claimed is determined to be excessive, improper, or unreasonable. The claim must be filed with sufficient documentation to support the costs claimed. The types of documentation required to substantiate a claim are identified in the instructions for the program. The certification of claim, form FAM-27, must be signed and dated by the entity's authorized officer in order for the SCO to make payment on the claim.

A. Reimbursement Claim

A reimbursement claim is defined in GC Section 17522 as any claim filed with the SCO by a CCD for reimbursement of costs incurred for which an appropriation is made for the purpose of paying the claim. The claim must include supporting documentation to substantiate the costs claimed.

Initial reimbursement claims are first-time claims for reimbursement of costs for one or more prior fiscal years of a program that was previously unfunded. Claims are due 120 days from the date of issuance of the claiming instructions for the program by the SCO. The first statute that appropriates funds for the mandated program will specify the fiscal years for which costs are eligible for reimbursement.

Annual reimbursement claims must be filed by January 15 following the fiscal year in which costs were incurred for the program. A reimbursement claim must detail the costs actually incurred in the prior fiscal year.

An actual claim for 2004-05 fiscal year, may be filed by January 15, 2006 without a late penalty. Claims filed after the deadline will be reduced by a late penalty of 10%, not to exceed $1,000. However, initial reimbursement claims will be reduced by a late penalty of 10% with no limitation. In order for a claim to be considered properly filed, it must include any specific supporting documentation requested in the instructions. Claims filed more than one year after the deadline or without the requested supporting documentation will not be accepted.

B. Estimated Claim

An estimated claim is defined in GC Section 17522 as any claim filed with the SCO, during the fiscal year in which the mandated costs are to be incurred by the CCD, against an appropriation made to the SCO for the purpose of paying those costs.

An estimated claim may be filed in conjunction with an initial reimbursement claim, annual reimbursement claim, or at other times for estimated costs to be incurred during the current fiscal year. Annual estimated claims are due January 15 of the fiscal year in which the costs are to be incurred. Initial estimated claims are due on the date specified in the claiming instructions. Timely filed estimated claims are paid before those filed after the deadline.

After receiving payment for an estimated claim, the claimant must file a reimbursement claim by January 15 following the fiscal year in which costs were incurred. If the claimant fails to file a reimbursement claim, monies received for the estimated claims must be returned to the State.

C. Entitlement Claim

An entitlement claim is defined in GC Section 17522 as any claim filed by a CCD with the SCO for the sole purpose of establishing or adjusting a base year entitlement for a mandated program that has been included in SMAS. An entitlement claim should not contain nonrecurring or initial start-up costs. There is no statutory deadline for the filing of entitlement claims. However, entitlement claims and supporting documents should be filed by January 15, following the third fiscal year used to develop the entitlement claim, to permit an orderly processing of claims. When the claims are approved and a base year entitlement amount is determined, the claimant will receive an apportionment reflective of the program's current year costs.

Once a mandate has been included in SMAS and the claimant has established a base year entitlement, the claimant will receive automatic payments from the SCO for the mandate. The automatic apportionment is determined by adjusting the claimant's base year entitlement for changes in the implicit price deflator of costs of goods and services to governmental agencies, as determined by the State Department of Finance. For programs approved by the COSM for inclusion in SMAS on or after January 1, 1988, the payment for each year succeeding the three

year base period is adjusted according to any changes by both the deflator and average daily attendance. Annual apportionments for programs included in the system are paid on or before November 30 of each year.

A base year entitlement is determined by computing an average of the claimant's costs for any three consecutive years after the program has been approved for the SMAS process. The amount is first adjusted according to any changes in the deflator. The deflator is applied separately to each year's costs for the three years, which comprise the base year. The SCO will perform this computation for each claimant who has filed claims for three consecutive years. If a claimant has incurred costs for three consecutive years but has not filed a claim in each of those years, the claimant may file an entitlement claim, form FAM-43, to establish a base year entitlement. The form FAM-43 is included in the claiming instructions for SMAS programs. An entitlement claim does not result in the claimant being reimbursed for the costs incurred, but rather entitles the claimant to receive automatic payments from SMAS.

3. Minimum Claim Amount

For initial claims and annual claims filed on or after September 30 2002, if the total costs for a given year do not exceed $1,000, no reimbursement shall be allowed except as otherwiseallowed by GC Section 17564.

4. Filing Deadline for Claims

Initial reimbursement claims (first-time claims) for reimbursement of costs of a previously unfunded mandated program must be filed within 120 days from the date of issuance of the program’s claiming instructions by the SCO. If the initial reimbursement claim is filed after the deadline, but within one year of the deadline, the approved claim must be reduced by a 10% penalty. A claim filed more than one year after the deadline cannot be accepted for reimbursement.

Annual reimbursement claims for costs incurred during the previous fiscal year and estimated claims for costs to be incurred during the current fiscal year must be filed with the SCO and postmarked on or before January 15. If the annual or estimated reimbursement claim is filed after the deadline, but within one year of the deadline, the approved claim must be reduced by a 10% late penalty, not to exceed $1,000. Claims must include supporting data to show how the amount claimed was derived. Without this information, the claim cannot be accepted.

Entitlement claims do not have a filing deadline. However, entitlement claims and supporting documents should be filed by January 15 to permit an orderly processing of claims. Entitlement claims are used to establish a base year entitlement amount for calculating automatic annual payments. Entitlement does not result in the claimant being reimbursed for costs incurred, but rather entitles the claimant to receive automatic payments from SMAS.

5. Payment of Claims

In order for the SCO to authorize payment of a claim, the Certification of Claim, form FAM-27, must be properly filled out, signed, and dated by the entity's authorized officer.

Reimbursement and estimated claims are paid within 60 days of the filing deadline for the claim, or 15 days after the date the appropriation for the claim is effective, whichever is later. A claimant is entitled to receive accrued interest at the pooled money investment account rate if the payment was made more than 60 days after the claim filing deadline or the actual date of claim receipt, whichever is later. For an initial claim, interest begins to accrue when the payment is made more than 365 days after the adoption of the program's statewide cost estimate. The SCO may withhold up to 20 percent of the amount of an initial claim until the claim is audited to verify the actual amount of the mandated costs. The 20 percent withheld is not subject to accrued interest.

In the event the amount appropriated by the Legislature is insufficient to pay the approved amount in full for a program, claimants will receive a prorated payment in proportion to the amount of approved claims timely filed and on hand at the time of proration.

The SCO reports the amounts of insufficient appropriations to the State Department of Finance, the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, and the Chairperson of the respective committee in each house of the Legislature, which consider appropriations in order to assure appropriation of these funds in the Budget Act. If these funds cannot be appropriated on a timely basis in the Budget Act, this information is transmitted to the COSM which will include these amounts in its report to assure that an appropriation sufficient to pay the claims is included in the next local government claims bill or other appropriation bills. When the supplementary funds are made available, the balance of the claims will be paid.

Unless specified in the statutes, regulations, or P's & G's, the determination of allowable and unallowable costs for mandates is based on the P's & G's adopted by the COSM. The determination of allowable reimbursable mandated costs for unfunded mandates is made by the COSM. The SCO determines allowable reimbursable costs, subject to amendment by the COSM, for mandates funded by special legislation. Unless specified, allowable costs are those direct and indirect costs, less applicable credits, considered to be eligible for reimbursement. In order for costs to be allowable and thus eligible for reimbursement, the costs must meet the following general criteria:

1. The cost is necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient administration of the mandate and not a general expense required to carry out the overall responsibilities of government.
2. The cost is allocable to a particular cost objective identified in the P's & G's.
3. The cost is net of any applicable credits that offset or reduce expenses of items allocable to the mandate.

The SCO has identified certain costs that should not be claimed as direct program costs unless specified as reimbursable under the program's P's & G's. These costs include, but are not limited to, subscriptions, depreciation, memberships, conferences, workshops general education, and travel costs.

6. State Mandates Apportionment System (SMAS)

Chapter 1534, Statutes of 1985, established SMAS, a method of paying certain mandated programs as apportionments. This method is utilized whenever a program has been approved for inclusion in SMAS by the COSM.

When a mandated program has been included in SMAS, the SCO will determine a base year entitlement amount for each CCD that has submitted reimbursement claims (or entitlement claims) for three consecutive fiscal years. A base year entitlement amount is determined by averaging the approved reimbursement claims (or entitlement claims) for 1982-83, 1983-84, and 1984-85 years or any three consecutive fiscal years thereafter. The amounts are first adjusted by any change in the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD), which is applied separately to each year's costs for the three years that comprise the base period. The base period means the three fiscal years immediately succeeding the COSM's approval.

Each CCD with an established base year entitlement for the program will receive automatic annual payments from the SCO reflective of the program's current year costs. The amount of apportionment is adjusted annually for any change in the IPD. If the mandated program was included in SMAS after January 1, 1988, the annual apportionment is adjusted for any change in both the IPD and average daily attendance.

In the event a CCD has incurred costs for three consecutive fiscal years but did not file a reimbursement claim in one or more of those fiscal years, the CCD may file an entitlement claim for each of those missed years to establish a base year entitlement. An "entitlement claim" means any

claim filed by CCD with the SCO for the sole purpose of establishing a base year entitlement. A base year entitlement shall not include any nonrecurring or initial start-up costs.

Initial apportionments are made on an individual program basis. After the initial year, all apportionments are made by November 30. The amount to be apportioned is the base year entitlement adjusted by annual changes in the IPD for the cost of goods and services to governmental agencies as determined by the State Department of Finance.

In the event the CCD determines that the amount of apportionment does not accurately reflect costs incurred to comply with a mandate, the process of adjusting an established base year entitlement upon which the apportionment is based is set forth in GC Section 17615.8 and requires the approval of the COSM.

7. Direct Costs

A direct cost is a cost that can be identified specifically with a particular program or activity. Each claimed reimbursable cost must be supported by documentation as described in Section 12. Costs that are typically classified as direct costs are:

(1) Employee Wages, Salaries, and Fringe Benefits

For each of the mandated activities performed, the claimant must list the names of the employees who worked on the mandate, their job classification, hours worked on the mandate, and rate of pay. The claimant may, in-lieu of reporting actual compensation and fringe benefits, use a productive hourly rate:

(a) Productive Hourly Rate Options

A CCD may use one of the following methods to compute productive hourly rates:

- Actual annual productive hours for each employee
- The weighted-average annual productive hours for each job title, or
- 1,800* annual productive hours for all employees

If actual annual productive hours or weighted-average annual productive hours for each job title is chosen, the claim must include a computation of how these hours were computed.

* 1,800 annual productive hours excludes the following employee time:
o Paid holidays
o Vacation earned
o Sick leave taken
o Informal time off
o Jury duty
o Military leave taken.

(b) Compute a Productive Hourly Rate

1. Compute a productive hourly rate for salaried employees to include actual fringe benefit costs. The methodology for converting a salary to a productive hourly rate is to compute the employee's annual salary and fringe benefits and divide by the annual productive hours.

Table 1: Productive Hourly Rate, Annual Salary + Benefits Method

Formula:	**Description:**
[(EAS + Benefits) ÷ APH] = PHR	EAS = Employee's Annual Salary
	APH = Annual Productive Hours
[($26,000 + $8,099)] ÷ 1,800 hrs = 18.94	PHR = Productive Hourly Rate

- As illustrated in Table 1, if you assume an employee's compensation was $26,000 and $8,099 for annual salary and fringe benefits, respectively, using the "Salary + Benefits Method," the productive hourly rate would be $18.94. To convert a biweekly salary to EAS, multiply the biweekly salary by 26. To convert a monthly salary to EAS, multiply the monthly salary by 12. Use the same methodology to convert other salary periods.

2. A claimant may also compute the productive hourly rate by using the "Percent of Salary Method."

Table 2: Productive Hourly Rate, Percent of Salary Method

Example:

Step 1: *Fringe Benefits as a Percent of Salary*		**Step 2:** *Productive Hourly Rate*
Retirement	15.00 %	**Formula:**
Social Security & Medicare	7.65	[(EAS x (1 + FBR)) ÷ APH] = PHR
Health & Dental Insurance	5.25	
Workers Compensation	3.25	[($26,000 x (1.3115)) ÷ 1,800] = $18.94
Total	**31.15 %**	

Description:

EAS = Employee's Annual Salary	APH = Annual Productive Hours
FBR = Fringe Benefit Rate	PHR = Productive Hourly Rate

- As illustrated in Table 3, both methods produce the same productive hourly rate.

Reimbursement for personnel services includes, but is not limited to, compensation paid for salaries, wages and employee fringe benefits. Employee fringe benefits include employer's contributions for social security, pension plans, insurance, workmen's compensation insurance and similar payments. These benefits are eligible for reimbursement as long as they are distributed equitably to all activities. Whether these costs are allowable is based on the following presumptions:

- The amount of compensation is reasonable for the service rendered.
- The compensation paid and benefits received are appropriately authorized by the governing board.
- Amounts charged for personnel services are based on payroll documents that are supported by time and attendance or equivalent records for individual employees.
- The methods used to distribute personnel services should produce an equitable distribution of direct and indirect allowable costs.

For each of the employees included in the claim, the claimant must use reasonable rates and hours in computing the wage cost. If a person of a higher-level job position, perform an activity which normally would be performed by a lower-level position, reimbursement for time spent is allowable at the average salary range for the lower-level position. The salary rate of the person at a higher-level position may be claimed if it can be shown that it was more cost effective in comparison to the performance by a person at the lower-level position under normal circumstances and conditions. The number of hours charged to an activity should reflect the time expected to complete the activity under normal circumstances and conditions. The numbers of hours in excess of normal expected hours are not reimbursable.

(c) Calculating an Average Productive Hourly Rate

In those instances where the parameters and guidelines allow a unit as a basis of claiming costs, the direct labor component of the unit cost should be expressed as an average productive hourly rate and can be determined as follows:

Table 3: Calculating an Average Productive Hourly Rate

	Time Spent	Productive Hourly Rate	Total Cost by Employee
Employee A	1.25 hrs	$6.00	$7.50
Employee B	0.75 hrs	4.50	3.38
Employee C	3.50 hrs	10.00	35.00
Total	5.50 hrs		$45.88
Average Productive Hourly Rate is $45.88/5.50 hrs. = $8.34			

(d) Employer's Fringe Benefits Contribution

A CCD has the option of claiming actual employer's fringe benefit contributions or may compute an average fringe benefit cost for the employee's job classification and claim it as a percentage of direct labor. The same time base should be used for both salary and fringe benefits when computing a percentage. For example, if health and dental insurance payments are made annually, use an annual salary. After the percentage of salary for each fringe benefit is computed, total them.

For example:

Employer's Contribution	% of Salary
Retirement	15.00%
Social Security	7.65%
Health and Dental Insurance	5.25%
Worker's Compensation	0.75%
Total	28.65%

(e) Materials and Supplies

Only actual expenses can be claimed for materials and supplies, which were acquired and consumed specifically for the purpose of a mandated program. The claimant must list the materials and supplies that were used to perform the mandated activity, the

number of units consumed, the cost per unit, and the total dollar amount claimed. Materials and supplies purchased to perform a particular mandated activity are expected to be reasonable in quality, quantity, and cost. Purchases in excess of reasonable quality, quantity, and cost are not reimbursable. Materials and supplies withdrawn from inventory and charged to the mandated activity must be based on a recognized method of pricing, consistently applied. Purchases shall be claimed at the actual price after deducting discounts, rebates and allowances received by the CCD.

(f) Calculating a Unit Cost for Materials and Supplies

In those instances where the P's & G's suggest that a unit cost be developed for use as a basis of claiming costs mandated by the State, the materials and supplies component of the unit cost should be expressed as a unit cost of materials and supplies as shown in Table 1 or Table 2:

Table 1: Calculating A Unit Cost for Materials and Supplies

Supplies	Cost Per Unit	Amount of Supplies Used Per Activity	Unit Cost of Supplies Per Activity
Paper	0.02	4	$0.08
Files	0.10	1	0.10
Envelopes	0.03	2	0.06
Photocopies	0.10	4	0.40
			$0.64

Table 2: Calculating a Unit Cost for Materials and Supplies

Supplies	Supplies Used	Unit Cost of Supplies Per Activity
Paper ($10.00 for 500 sheet ream)	250 Sheets	$5.00
Files ($2.50 for box of 25)	10 Folders	1.00
Envelopes ($3.00 for box of 100)	50 Envelopes	1.50
Photocopies ($0.05 per copy)	40 Copies	2.00
		$9.50

If the number of reimbursable instances is 25, then the unit cost of supplies is $0.38 per reimbursable instance ($9.50/25).

(g) Contract Services

The cost of contract services is allowable if the CCD lacks the staff resources or necessary expertise, or it is economically feasible to hire a contractor to perform the mandated activity. The claimant must give the name of the contractor, explain the reason for having to hire a contractor, describe the mandated activities performed, give the dates when the activities were performed, the number of hours spent performing the mandate, the hourly billing rate, and the total cost. The hourly billing rate shall not exceed the rate specified in the P's & G's for the mandated program. The contractor's

invoice, or statement, which includes an itemized list of costs for activities performed, must accompany the claim.

(h) Equipment Rental Costs

Equipment purchases and leases (with an option to purchase) are not reimbursable as a direct cost unless specifically allowed by the P's & G's for the particular mandate. Equipment rentals used solely for the mandate is reimbursable to the extent such costs do not exceed the retail purchase price of the equipment plus a finance charge. The claimant must explain the purpose and use for the equipment, the time period for which the equipment was rented and the total cost of the rental. If the equipment is used for purposes other than reimbursable activities, only the pro rata portion of the rental costs can be claimed.

(i) Capital Outlay

Capital outlays for land, buildings, equipment, furniture and fixtures may be claimed if the P's & G's specify them as allowable. If they are allowable, the parameters and guidelines for the program will specify a basis for the reimbursement. If the fixed asset or equipment is also used for purposes other than reimbursable activities for a specific mandate, only the pro rata portion of the purchase price used to implement the reimbursable activities can be claimed.

(j) Travel Expenses

Travel expenses are normally reimbursable in accordance with travel rules and regulations of the local jurisdiction. For some programs, however, the P's & G's may specify certain limitations on expenses, or that expenses can only be reimbursed in accordance with the State Board of Control travel standards. When claiming travel expenses, the claimant must explain the purpose of the trip, identify the name and address of the persons incurring the expense, the date and time of departure and return for the trip, description of each expense claimed, the cost of transportation, number of private auto miles traveled, and the cost of tolls and parking with receipts required for charges over $10.00.

(k) Documentation

It is the responsibility of the claimant to make available to the SCO, upon request, documentation in the form of general and subsidiary ledgers, purchase orders, invoices, contracts, canceled warrants, equipment usage records, land deeds, receipts, employee time sheets, agency travel guidelines, inventory records, and other relevant documents to support claimed costs. The type of documentation necessary for each claim may differ with the type of mandate.

8. Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are: (a) Incurred for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one cost objective, and (b) not readily assignable to the cost objectives specifically benefited without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. Indirect costs can originate in the department performing the mandate or in departments that supply the department performing the mandate with goods, services and facilities. To be allowable, a cost must be allocable to a particular cost objective. Indirect costs must be distributed to benefiting cost objectives on bases which produce an equitable result related to the benefits derived by the mandate.

A CCD may claim indirect costs using the Controller's methodology (FAM-29C) outlined in the following paragraphs. If specifically allowed by a mandated program's P's & G's, a district may alternately choose to claim indirect costs using either (1) a federally approved rate prepared in

accordance with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-21, *Cost Principles for Educational Institutions*; or (2) a flat 7% rate.

The SCO developed FAM-29C to be consistent with OMB Circular A-21, cost accounting principles as they apply to mandated cost programs. The objective is to determine an equitable rate to allocate administrative support to personnel who performed the mandated cost activities. The FAM-29C methodology uses a direct cost base comprised of salary and benefit costs and operating expenses. Form FAM-29C provides a consistent indirect cost rate methodology for all CCD's mandated cost programs.

FAM-29C uses total expenditures that districts report in their *California Community Colleges Annual Financial and Budget Report* (CCFS-311), Expenditures by Activity for the General Fund – Combined. The computation excludes Capital Outlay and Other Outgo in accordance with OMB Circular A-21. The indirect cost rate computation includes any depreciation or use allowance applicable to district buildings and equipment. Districts calculate depreciation or use allowance costs separately from the CCFS-311 report and should calculate them in accordance with OMB Circular A-21.

OMB Circular A-21, Section C.4, states that cost is allocable to a particular cost objective in accordance with the relative benefits received. Also, Section E.2.b. states that the overall objective of the cost allocation process is to distribute indirect costs to the institution's major functions in proportions reasonably consistent with their use of the institution's resources. In addition, Section E.2.c. notes that where certain items or categories of expense relate to less than all functions, such expenses should be set aside for selective allocation.

OMB Circular A-21, Section H, describes a simplified method for indirect cost rate calculations. However, Section H.1.b. states that the simplified method should not be used where it produces results that appear inequitable. As previously noted, FAM-29C strives to equitably allocate administrative support costs to personnel that perform mandated cost activities claimed by CCD. For example, library costs and department administration expenses, normally classified fully or partly as indirect costs in OMB Circular A-21, are instead classified as direct costs for FAM-29C. These costs do not benefit mandated cost activities. In summary, FAM-29C indirect costs include Operation and Maintenance of Plant; Planning, Policy Making, and Coordination; General Institutional Support Services (excluding Community Relations); and depreciation or use allowance. Community Relations includes fundraising costs, which are unallowable under OMB Circular A-21. If the district claims any costs from these indirect accounts as a direct mandate-related costs, the same costs should be reclassified as direct on FAM-29C.

Table 4 presents an example of the FAM-29C methodology.

Table 4: Indirect Cost Rate for Community Colleges

MANDATED COST INDIRECT COST RATE FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICTS						FORM FAM 29-C
(1) Claimant				(02) Period of Claim		
Activity	**EDP**	**Total Costs Per CCFS-311**	**Less: Capital Outlay and Other Outgo**	**FAM 29-C Adjusted Total**	**Indirect**	**Direct**
Instructional Activities	599	$ 51,792,408	$ (230,904)	$ 51,561,504		$ 51,561,504
Instruct. Admin. & Instruct. Governance	6000	6,882,034	(216,518)	6,665,516		6,665,516
Instructional Support Services	6100	4,155,095	(9,348)	4,145,747		4,145,747
Admissions and Records	6200	2,104,543	(3,824)	2,100,719		2,100,719
Student Counseling and Guidance	6300	4,570,658	(1,605)	4,569,053		4,569,053
Other Student Services	6400	5,426,510	(41,046)	5,385,464		5,385,464
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	6500	8,528,585	(111,743)	8,416,842	8,416,842	-
Planning, Policy Making, and Coordination	6600	5,015,333	(23,660)	4,991,673	4,991,673	-
General Institutional Support Services	6700			-		-
Community Relations	6710	885,089	(6,091)	878,998		878,998
Fiscal Operations	6720	1,891,424	(40,854)	1,850,570	1,850,570	-
Human Resources Management	6730	1,378,288	(25,899)	1,352,389	1,352,389	-
Non-instructional Staff Retirees' Benefits and				-	-	-
Retirement Incentives	6740	1,011,060		1,011,060	1,011,060	-
Staff Development	6750	108,655	(8,782)	99,873	99,873	-
Staff Diversity	6760	30,125		30,125	30,125	-
Logistical Services	6770	2,790,091	(244,746)	2,545,345	2,545,345	-
Management Information Systems	6780	2,595,214	(496,861)	2,098,353	2,098,353	-
Other General Institutional Support Services	6790	33,155	(4,435)	28,720	28,720	-
Community Services and Economic Development	6800	340,014		340,014		340,014
Anciliary Services	6900	1,148,730	(296)	1,148,434		1,148,434
Auxiliary Operations	7000			-		-
Depreciation or Use Allowance - Building				-	2,620,741	
Depreciation or Use Allowance - Equipment				-	1,706,396	
				-		
Totals		$100,687,011	$ (1,466,612)	$ 99,220,399	$26,752,087	$ 76,795,449
					(A)	**(B)**
Indirect Cost Rate (A)/(B)					34.84%	

9. Time Study Guidelines

Background

For costs incurred on or after January 1, 2005, a reasonable reimbursement methodology can be used as a formula for reimbursing CCD costs mandated by the state that meets certain conditions specified in GC Section 17518.5(a). For costs incurred prior to January 1, 2005, a time study can only be substituted for continuous records of actual time spent for a specific fiscal year if the program's P's & G's allows for the use of time studies.

Two methods are acceptable for documenting employee time charged to mandated cost programs: Actual Time Reporting and Time Study, which are described below. Application of time study results is restricted. As explained in Time Study Results below, the results may be projected forward a maximum of two years provided the claimant meets certain criteria.

Actual Time Reporting

The P's & G's define reimbursable activities for each mandated cost program. (Some P's & G's refer to reimbursable activities as reimbursable components.) When employees work on multiple activities and/or programs, a distribution of their salaries or wages must be supported by personnel activity reports or equivalent documentation that meets the following standards (which clarify documentation requirements discussed under the Reimbursable Activities section of recent P's & G's):

- They must reflect an after-the-fact (contemporaneous) distribution of the actual activity of each employee;
- They must account for the total activity for which each employee is compensated;
- They must be prepared at least monthly and must coincide with one or more pay periods; and
- They must be signed by the employee.

Budget estimates or other distribution percentages determined before services are performed do not qualify as support for time distribution.

Time Study

In certain cases, a time study may be used to substitute for continuous records of actual time spent on multiple activities and/or programs. An effective time study requires that an activity be a task that is repetitive in nature. Activities that require a varying level of effort are not appropriate for time studies.

Time Study Plan

A time study plan is necessary before conducting the time study. The claimant must retain the time study plan for audit purposes. The plan needs to identify the following:

- Time period(s) to be studied – The plan must show that all time periods selected are representative of the fiscal year, and that the results can be reasonably projected to approximate actual costs.

- Activities and/or programs to be studied – For each mandated program included, the time study must separately identify each reimbursable activity defined in the mandated program's P's & G's, which are derived from the program's Statement of Decision. If a reimbursable activity in the P's & G's identifies separate and distinct sub-activities, they must also be treated as individual activities.

For example, sub-activities (a), (b), and (c) under reimbursable activity (B)(1) of the local agency's Domestic Violence Treatment Services: Authorization and Case Management program relate to information to be discussed during victim notification by the probation department and therefore are not separate and distinct activities. These sub-activities do not have to be separately studied.

- Process used to accomplish each reimbursable activity – Use flowcharts or similar analytical tools and/or written desk procedures to describe the process for each activity.

- Employee universe – The employee universe used in the time study must include all positions whose salaries and wages are to be allocated by means of the time study.

- Employee sample selection methodology – The plan must show that employees selected are representative of the employee universe, and the results can be reasonably projected to approximate actual costs. In addition, the employee sample size should be proportional to the variation in time spent to perform a task. The sample size should be larger for tasks with significant time variations.

- Time increments to be recorded – The time increments used should be sufficient to recognize the number of different activities performed and the dynamics of these responsibilities. Very large increments (such as one hour or more) might be used for employees performing only a few functions that change very slowly over time. Very small increments (a number of minutes) may be needed for employees performing more short-term tasks.

Random moment sampling is not an acceptable alternative to continuous time records for mandated cost claims. Random moment sampling techniques are most applicable in situations where employees perform many different types of activities on a variety of programs with small time increments throughout the fiscal year.

Time Study Documentation

Time studies must:

- Be supported by time records that are completed contemporaneously;
- Report activity on a daily basis;
- Be sufficiently detailed to reflect all mandated activities and/or programs performed during a specific time period; and
- Coincide with one or more pay periods.

Time records must be signed by the employee (electronic signatures are acceptable) and be supported by corroborating evidence which validates that the work was actually performed. As with actual time reporting, budget estimates or other distribution percentages determined before services are performed do not qualify as valid time studies.

Time Study Results

Time study results must be summarized to show how the time study supports the costs claimed for each activity. Any variations from the procedures identified in the original time study plan must be documented and explained.

Current-year costs must be used to prepare a time study. Claimants may project time study results to no more than two subsequent fiscal years. A claimant may not apply time study results retroactively.

- Annual Reimbursement Claims – Claimants may use time studies to support costs incurred on or after January 1, 2005. Claimants may not use time studies for the period July 1, 2004,

through December 31, 2004, unless (1) the program's P's & G's specifically allow time studies, and (2) the time study is prepared based on mandated activity occurring between July 1, 2004, and December 31, 2004.

- Initial Claims – When filing an initial claim for new mandated programs, claimants may only use time study results for costs incurred on or after January 1, 2005. Claimants may not use time studies to support costs incurred before January 1, 2005, unless (1) the program's P's & G's specifically allow time studies, and (2) the claimant prepares separate time studies for each fiscal year preceding January 1, 2005, based on mandated activity occurring during those years.

When projecting time study results, the claimant must certify that there have been no significant changes between years in either: (1) the requirements of each mandated program activity or (2) the processes and procedures used to accomplish the activity. For all years, the claimant must maintain corroborating evidence that validates the mandated activity was actually performed. Time study results used to support subsequent years' claims are subject to the recordkeeping requirements for those claims.

10. Offset Against State Mandated Claims

As noted previously, allowable costs are defined as those direct and indirect costs, less applicable credits, considered to be eligible for reimbursement. When all or part of the costs of a mandated program are specifically reimbursable from local assistance revenue sources (e.g., state, federal, foundation, etc.), only that portion of any increased costs payable from CCD funds is eligible for reimbursement under the provisions of GC Section 17561.

Example 1:

As illustrated in Table 5, this example shows how the "Offset against State Mandated Claims" is determined for a CCD receiving block grant revenues not based on a formula allocation. Program costs for each of the situations equals $100,000.

Table 5: Offset Against State Mandates, Example 1

	Program Costs	Actual Local Assistance Revenues	State Mandated Costs	Offset Against State Mandated Claims	Claimable Mandated Costs
1.	$100,000	$95,000	$2,500	$-0-	$2,500
2.	100,000	97,000	2,500	-0-	2,500
3.	100,000	98,000	2,500	500	2,000
4.	100,000	100,000	2,500	2,500	-0-
5.	100,000 *	50,000	2,500	1,250	1,250
6.	100,000 *	49,000	2,500	250	2,250

* CCD share is $50,000 of the program cost.

Numbers (1) through (4), in Table 5, show intended funding at 100% from local assistance revenue sources. Numbers (5) and (6) show cost sharing on a 50/50 basis with the district. In numbers (1) through (6), included in the program costs of $100,000 are state mandated costs of $2,500. The offset against state mandated claims are the amount of actual local assistance revenues, which exceeds the difference between program costs and state mandated costs. This offset cannot exceed the amount of state mandated costs.

In (1), local assistance revenues were less than expected. Local assistance funding was not in excess of the difference between program costs and state mandated costs. As a result, the offset against state mandated claims is zero and $2,500 is claimable as mandated costs.

In (4), local assistance revenues were fully realized to cover the entire cost of the program, including the state mandate activity; therefore, the offset against state mandated claims is $2,500, and claimable costs are $0.

In (5), the district is sharing 50% of the project cost. Since local assistance revenues of $50,000 were fully realized, the offset against state mandated claims is $1,250.

In (6), local assistance revenues were less than the amount expended and the offset against state mandated claims is $250. Therefore, the claimable mandated costs are $2,250.

Example 2:

As illustrated in Table 6, this example shows how the offset against state mandated claims is determined for a CCD receiving special project funds based on approved actual costs. Local assistance revenues for special projects must be applied proportionately to approve costs.

Table 6: Offset Against State Mandates, Example 2

	Program Costs	Actual Local Assistance Revenues	State Mandated Costs	Offset Against State Mandated Claims	Claimable Mandated Costs
1.	$100,000	$100,000	$2,500	$2,500	$-0-
2.	100,000 **	75,000	2,500	1,875	625
3.	100,000 **	45,000	1,500	1,125	375

** CCD share is $25,000 of the program cost.

In (2), the entire program cost was approved. Since the local assistance revenue source covers 75% of the program cost, it also proportionately covered 75% of the $2,500 state mandated costs, or $1,875.

If in (3) local assistance revenues are less than the amount expected because only $60,000 of the $100,000 program costs were determined to be valid by the contracting agency, then a proportionate share of state mandated costs is likewise reduced to $1,500. The offset against state mandated claims is $1,125. Therefore, the claimable mandated costs are $375.

Federal and State Funding Sources

State school fund apportionments and federal aid for education, which are based on average daily attendance and are part of the general system of financing public schools as well as block grants which do not provide for specific reimbursement of costs (i.e., allocation formulas not tied to expenditures), should not be included as reimbursements from local assistance revenue sources.

Governing Authority

The costs of salaries and expenses of the governing authority, such as the school superintendent and governing board, are not reimbursable. These are costs of general government as described in the Office of Management and Budget Circular (OMB) 2 CFR Part 225.

11. Notice of Claim Adjustment

All claims submitted to the SCO are reviewed to determine if the claim was prepared in accordance with the claiming instructions. If any adjustments are made to a claim, the claimant will receive a "Notice of Claim Adjustments" detailing adjustments made by the SCO.

12. Audit of Costs

All claims submitted to the State Controller's Office (SCO) are reviewed to determine if costs are related to the mandate, are reasonable and not excessive, and the claim was prepared in accordance with the SCO's claiming instructions and the P's & G's adopted by the COSM. If any adjustments are made to a claim, a "Notice of Claim Adjustment" specifying the claim component adjusted, the amount adjusted, and the reason for the adjustment will be mailed within 30 days after payment of the claim.

Pursuant to GC Section 17558.5, subdivision (a), a reimbursement claim for actual costs filed by CCD pursuant to this chapter is subject to the initiation of an audit by the Controller no later than three years after the date that the actual reimbursement claim was filed or last amended, whichever is later. However, if no funds were appropriated or no payment was made to a claimant for the program for the fiscal year for which the claim is filed, the time for the Controller to initiate an audit shall commence to run from the date of initial payment of the claim. In any case, an audit shall be completed no later than two years after the date that the audit is commenced. All documents used to support the reimbursable activities must be retained during the period subject to audit. If an audit has been initiated by the Controller during the period subject to audit, the retention period is extended until the ultimate resolution of any audit findings.

On-site audits will be conducted by the SCO as deemed necessary. Accordingly, all documentation to support actual costs claimed must be retained for a period of three years after the end of the calendar year in which the reimbursement claim was filed or amended regardless of the year of costs incurred. When no funds are appropriated for initial claims at the time the claim is filed, supporting documents must be retained for three years from the date of initial payment of the claim. Claim documentation shall be made available to the SCO on request.

13. Source Documents

To be eligible for mandated cost reimbursement for any fiscal year, only actual costs may be claimed. Actual costs are those costs actually incurred to implement the mandated activities. Actual costs must be traceable and supported by source documents that show the validity of such costs, when they were incurred, and their relationship to the reimbursable activities. A source document is a document created at or near the same time the actual cost was incurred for the event or activity in question. Source documents may include, but are not limited to, employee time records or time logs, sign-in sheets, invoices, and receipts.

Evidence corroborating the source documents may include, but is not limited to, worksheets, cost allocation reports (system generated), purchase orders, contracts, agendas, training packets, and declarations. Declarations must include a certification or declaration stating, "I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct based upon personal knowledge." Evidence corroborating the source documents may include data relevant to the reimbursable activities otherwise in compliance with local, state, and federal government requirements. However, corroborating documents cannot be substituted for source documents.

For costs incurred on or after January 1, 2005, a reasonable reimbursement methodology can be used as a formula for reimbursing a CCD mandated by the state that meets certain conditions specified in 17518.5(a). For costs incurred prior to January 1, 2005, time study can substitute for continuous records of actual time spent for a specific fiscal year only if the program's P's & G's allow for the use of time studies.

14. Claim Forms and Instructions

A claimant may submit a computer generated report in substitution for Form-1 and Form-2, provided the format of the report and data fields contained within the report are identical to the claim forms included with these instructions. The claim forms provided with these instructions should be duplicated and used by the claimant to file an estimated or reimbursement claim. The SCO will revise the manual and claim forms as necessary.

A. Form-2, Component/Activity Cost Detail

This form is used to segregate the detail costs by claim component. In some mandates, specific reimbursable activities have been identified for each component. The expenses reported on this form must be supported by the official financial records of the claimant and copies of supporting documentation, as specified in the claiming instructions, must be submitted with the claims. All supporting documents must be retained for a period of not less than three years after the reimbursement claim was filed or last amended.

B. Form-1, Claim Summary

This form is used to summarize direct costs by component and compute allowable indirect costs for the mandate. The direct costs summarized on this form are derived from Form-2 and are carried forward to form FAM-27.

A CCD has the option of using a federally approved rate (i.e., utilizing the cost accounting principles from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2 CFR Part 225) or from FAM-29C.

C. Form FAM-27, Claim for Payment

This form contains a certification that must be signed by an authorized officer of the CCD. All applicable information from Form-1 must be carried forward onto this form in order for the SCO to process the claim for payment. An original and one copy of the FAM-27 is required.

Claims should be rounded to the nearest dollar. Submit a signed original and one copy of form FAM-27, Claim for Payment, and all other forms and supporting documents **(To expedite the payment process, please sign the form FAM-27 with blue ink, and attach a copy of the form FAM-27 to the top of the claim package.)** Use the following mailing addresses:

If delivered by U.S. Postal Service:	If delivered by Other delivery services:
Office of the State Controller Attn: Local Reimbursements Section Division of Accounting and Reporting P.O. Box 942850 Sacramento, CA 94250	Office of the State Controller Attn: Local Reimbursements Section Division of Accounting and Reporting 3301 C Street, Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95816

15. Retention of Claiming Instructions

For your convenience, the revised claiming instructions in this package have been arranged in alphabetical order by program name. These revisions should be inserted in the School Mandated Cost Manual and the old forms they replace should be removed. The instructions should then be retained permanently for future reference, and the forms should be duplicated to meet your filing requirements. Annually, updated forms and any other information or instructions claimants may need to file claims, as well as instructions and forms for all new programs released throughout the

year will be placed on the SCO's web site at www.sco.ca.gov/ard/local/locreim/index.shtml**.**

If you have any questions concerning mandated cost reimbursements, please write to us at the address listed for filing claims, or send e-mail to lrsdar@sco.ca.gov, or call the Local Reimbursements Section at (916) 324-5729.

16. Retention of Claim Records and Supporting Documentation

All claims submitted to the SCO are reviewed to determine if costs are related to the mandate, are reasonable and not excessive, and that the claim was prepared in accordance with the SCO's claiming instructions and the COSM's P's and G's. if any adjustments are made to a claim, a "Notice of Claim Adjustments" specifying the claim component adjusted, the amount adjusted, and the reason for the adjustment, will be mailed within 30 days after payment of the claim.

On-site audits will be conducted by the SCO as deemed necessary. Pursuant to GC Section 17558.5, subdivision (a), a reimbursement claim for actual costs filed by a school district is subject to audit by the SCO no later than three years after the date the actual reimbursement claim was filed or last amended, whichever is later. However, if no funds were appropriated or no payment was made to a claimant for the program for the fiscal year for which the claim was filed, the time for the SCO to initiate an audit shall commence to run from the date of initial payment of the claim. Therefore, all documentation to support actual costs claimed must be retained for the same period, and shall be made available to the SCO on request.