

K–3 Grade Span Adjustment

What are the conditions for receiving the kindergarten through grade three (K–3) grade span adjustment (GSA)? (Revised 04-Dec-2015)

As a condition of receiving the K–3 GSA, which is equal to 10.4 percent of the K–3 base grant, school districts must meet one of the following conditions:

- If a school site's average K–3 class enrollment was more than 24 pupils in the 2012-13 fiscal year, make progress toward maintaining, at that school site, an average K–3 class enrollment of not more than 24 pupils.
- If a school site's average K–3 class enrollment was 24 pupils or less in the 2012-13 fiscal year, maintain, at that school site, an average K–3 class enrollment of not more than 24 pupils.
- Agree to a collectively bargained alternative to the statutory K–3 GSA requirements.

For additional information relating to the class size requirements for the K–3 GSA, refer to [Education Code Section 42238.02\(d\)](#) and [Title 5 California Code of Regulations Section 15498](#).

How should a school district determine the required K–3 average class enrollment for each school site? (Revised 30-May-2017)

If a school site's average K–3 class enrollment was 24 pupils or less in the 2012–13 fiscal year, the district must maintain, at that school site, an average K–3 class enrollment of not more than 24 pupils, unless a collectively bargained alternative ratio is agreed to by the school district.

If a school site's average K–3 class enrollment was more than 24 pupils in 2012–13, the required average class enrollment is determined as follows, unless a collectively bargained alternative ratio is agreed to by the school district:

1. Determine the prior year average K–3 class enrollment at the school site. In 2013–14, this will be the 2012–13 actual level. In subsequent years, this will be the result of the calculation in Step 4 for the prior year.
2. Subtract 24 from Step 1.
3. Multiply the result of Step 2 by the percentage of gap funding provided in the current fiscal year. The school district may use either the DOF Gap Estimate as of the May Revision or the Actual Gap Certified by CDE as of the Actual P-2 (June) certification, which may be found on [CDE's LCFF Gap Funding web page](#) for each fiscal year.
4. Subtract the result of the calculation in Step 3 from the prior year average K–3 class enrollment in Step 1, to determine the maximum average K–3 class enrollment at the school site in the current year.

More detailed information on how to calculate average class enrollment and related program information can be found on the [LCFF K-3 GSA final regulations](#)(DOC).

If the Actual percentage is lower than what was Estimated at May Revision, can I use that percentage to determine progress? (Posted 04-Dec-2015)

Yes, school districts can use either the Estimated or Actual funding gap percentage, and can change which percentage is used each year when determining progress.

Must every K–3 classroom at a school site be at the specified average K–3 class enrollment or below? (Posted 10-Mar-2014)

No. An individual classroom may be higher or lower than the specified average so long as the average class enrollment of all K–3 classrooms at the school site is at, or below the specified average K–3 class enrollment.

When may school districts use a collectively bargained alternative to an average K–3 class enrollment of not more than 24? (Posted 10-Mar-2014)

A school district may use this option when the district has collectively bargained an alternative annual average K–3 class enrollment for each school site in contemplation of or subsequent to enactment of *EC* Section 42238.02. A school district can demonstrate that it agreed to an alternative in different ways. For example, the school district could enter into a new collective bargaining agreement, renegotiate an existing collective bargaining agreement, or mutually agree with its local union that an existing collective bargaining agreement contains an alternative annual average class enrollment for each school site. District legal counsel should be consulted as appropriate.

Do charter schools need to progress toward or maintain an average K–3 class enrollment of 24 to receive the K–3 GSA funding? (Posted 10-Mar-2014)

No. Pursuant to *EC* Section 42238.02(d)(3)(C) only “school districts” must make progress towards average K–3 class enrollment of 24 at each school site.

May a districtwide average be used instead of a school site average? (Posted 10-Mar-2014)

No. Statute only allows for a school site average.

May the requirements be waived by the Superintendent or the State Board of Education (SBE) if a school district determines that exceeding the school district’s required average K–3 class enrollment at a particular school site is in the best interest of a student or students? (Posted 10-Mar-2014)

This section of law may not be waived by the Superintendent or the SBE. Please note that school districts may collectively bargain an alternative.

Will school districts need to provide a report similar to the J-7 CSR (class-size reduction) report to get grade-span adjustment funds? (Posted 10-Mar-2014)

No. The K-3 GSA funds will automatically be included in the districts’ principal apportionment funding. However, districts will be required to show their independent auditors either 1) their collectively bargained alternative, or 2) their calculations showing that the K-3 GSA requirements were met. If the K-3 GSA requirements were not met, then the auditor will issue an audit finding disallowing the K-3 GSA add-on funding, and the funding will be adjusted in the district’s next principal apportionment certification.