

Attachment

High Performance Incentive Grant – PIW FAQs

General Questions

Q: When must the HPI Grant section of the PIW be completed?

A: This section of the PIW must be completed at each reporting period for the project and only when the project has received High Performance Incentive grants.

Q: Who may complete the HPI Grant section of the PIW?

A: Anyone with access to the school district's password for logging in to the OPSC website will be able to fill out the PIW information for HPI grants. Passwords are only given to those who have been identified by the school district as valid representatives and are on file in the OPSC database. To change the district representative, a school district can submit a Form SAB 50-03, filling out Section 1 of the form only, naming the new representative(s).

Q: What will the information be used for?

A: The information gathered on HPI grant funding will be used as a guide for future consideration of how similar programs will be created and funded. Currently there is a lack of good data on costs associated with high performance building features, so the State Allocation Board wanted to use the HPI grants as a starting point for collecting information on costs associated with constructing high performance buildings and components. This information will not be used as part of a project audit.

High Performance Incentive Grant Information Section

Q: How do I find out the number of HPRC points attained?

A: Each project that is submitted to the OPSC for HPI grant funding must have a High Performance Rating Criteria Scorecard approved by the DSA. This scorecard will have the number of HPRC points attained in the project design.

Q: What is the Total State Apportionment?

A: For new construction projects, the Total State Apportionment is 50% of the eligible project costs as shown on the funding shell that was approved by the State Allocation Board. For modernization projects the Total State Apportionment is 60% of the eligible project costs. For projects approved with Financial Hardship requests, these amounts may be up to 100% of the total eligible project costs depending on if the district has any matching funds available for the project.

Q: How do I calculate State Share HPI?

A: The number of HPRC points attained on the HPRC Scorecard provided by the DSA is translated in to a percentage increase to the construction base grant amount for the project.

Whatever dollar figure results from this percentage increase represents either the 50% State Share of the HPI grant for new construction projects or the 60% State Share of the HPI grant for modernization projects. If the district has a copy of the funding shell that was approved by the State Allocation Board the amount listed on the shell for High Performance represents the State Share of the HPI grant for that project. Funding shells are also available on the OPSC website in the State Allocation Board agenda archives.

Q: What is the Total District Match?

A: For new construction projects the Total District Match would be equal to the Total State Apportionment for the project. For modernization projects, the Total District Match for the project is 40% of the total project costs. To calculate the Total District Match based on the State's 60% share amount, take the State Share at 60%, divide by six and then multiply that result by four, this will give you the Total District Match.

Q: How do I calculate Total HPI Match?

A: For new construction projects the Total HPI Match would be equal to the State Share HPI grant amount for the project. To calculate the Total HPI Match for modernization projects, take the State's 60% Share of the HPI grant, divide by six and then multiply that result by four, this will give you the Total HPI Match.

Q: What types of Hard Cost components/elements should be included (or excluded)?

A: Any of the components or elements of the design that helped to attain HPRC points should be listed in the Differential Costs section of the PIW. Only items and systems that are high performing as compared to similar non high performing items should be reported. This may include, but is not limited to; lighting systems, HVAC systems, roofing, insulation, energy efficient windows and doors, low flow toilets and urinals, ducting, low mercury emitting items, etc.

Q: What types of Soft Cost components/elements should be included (or excluded)?

A: Any of the soft costs related to designing and integrating the high performance design features should be included in the Differential Costs section. This should include a comparison to what a high performance design costs as compared to a standard design. Also expenditures on commissioning and/or training to use the high performing components properly can be reported. Costs associated with feasibility studies and testing may also be included in this section.

Q: What is the "High Performing Cost" of a component/element?

A: This is just the cost of the high performing components or elements included in the project. The cost of these high performing features will be compared to what a similar non high performing feature costs.

Q: How do I find the "Standard Cost" of a component/element?

A: The standard cost of an element or component should be the cost (or average cost if there is a variance) of what a building feature or system costs when they are standard or not high performing. An example of this would be how much the cost of a standard non high performing

HVAC system is. This will be used in comparison to the cost of a similar high performing feature or system to examine the difference in costs.

Q: What if I don't know / I can't find the cost data for some components/elements?

A: There are publications such as the Sailor Cost Index and other publications that will give costs on building components and elements. Architects and cost estimators may also be able to provide these figures.

Additional High Performance Incentive Grant Information Section

Q: In the Energy Savings section, do I report money saved per month? Per year?

A: This section can be reported either by month or by year depending on the length of time that the energy savings have been realized. If this is for a new school project, projected energy savings may also be used for this section.

Q: How can cost-per-month savings be measured or anticipated for new facilities, when there are no past energy costs for the facilities to compare with?

A: Energy costs for other similarly sized buildings in the district may be used as a measuring stick for anticipated energy costs to be compared to the savings that are projected or estimated to be realized with the high performing features in the new facilities.

Q: It looks like the Energy Savings section is asking for data on money saved. Can we report actual energy savings (i.e. using less energy), too?

A: Yes. Please report any and all benefits that are realized from energy savings or any other benefits that are realized from the high performing components in the facility. If this is a new school without older energy usage to compare with, please indicate expected energy savings.

Q: When I am filling out the Student Achievement section, what if I don't have any data to report here (as would be the case with a new school.)

A: If you do not have any data to report in this section, simply put "N/A". Data that would be appropriate to enter here would be any academic benefits or other benefits realized by students as a result of the high performing components in the project.

Q: What kinds of "Other Benefits" realized may be reported?

A: Any benefit not identified in any of the other categories on the form should be listed in this section. This information gathered in this form is going to be used for providing a foundation for future high performance types of programs. Any benefits that are identified will be useful in creating a program that focuses on the benefits being realized by those who have already constructed high performing facilities.