

160-5-1-.08 CLASS SIZE.

(1) DEFINITIONS.

(a) **Individual Class Size Funding Ratio** – The number of students needed to earn state funds, calculated on the base amount, to pay for a single class in each of the QBE formula programs.

(b) **Maximum Individual Class Size** – Maximum number of students that may be taught by a teacher in a class segment.

(c) **Gifted Resource Class Delivery Model** – Classes for gifted students that emphasize interdisciplinary enrichment. Although the curriculum has academic content, the instruction focuses on thinking skills, problem solving, research and communication skills, and creative productivity. (Example: Elementary Pull-Out Enrichment Class)

(d) **Gifted Advanced Content Delivery Model** – Achievement-grouped advanced classes in academic content areas. The curriculum is differentiated in content, pacing, process-skills emphasis, and expectation of student achievement to provide challenge for gifted learners. (Examples: middle school Algebra I; Honors/AP/IB courses)

(e) **Resource Delivery Model** – Instruction for students with disabilities outside the regular classroom for three or fewer segments of the instructional day.

(f) **Self-Contained Delivery Model** – Instruction for students with disabilities in one area of exceptionality for four or more segments of the instructional day.

(g) **Areas of Exceptionality** – Areas of exceptionality with maximum class sizes are as follows.

1. S/L: Speech-Language Impairment
2. D/HH: Deaf/Hard of Hearing
3. LD: Specific Learning Disability
4. EBD: Emotional and Behavioral Disorder
5. MID: Mild Intellectual Disability
6. SID: Severe Intellectual Disability
7. MOID: Moderate Intellectual Disability
8. OI: Orthopedic Impairment
9. PID: Profound Intellectual Disability
10. VI: Visual Impairment
11. DB: Deaf-Blind
12. SED: Severe, Emotional and Behavioral Disorder
- 13: SDD: Significant Developmental Delay

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(h) **Early Intervention Program (EIP)** – Program to serve students in grades K through 5 who are at risk of not reaching or maintaining academic grade level to obtain the necessary skills to reach grade-level performance in the shortest possible time as specified in Rule 160-4-2-.17 Early Intervention Program.

(i) **Remedial Education Program** – an instructional program designed for students in grades 9-12 who have identified deficiencies in reading, writing, and math as identified by Rule 160-4-5-.01 Remedial Education

(j) **Physical Classroom** — The maximum class size for grades K-3 is applicable to the physical classroom. The physical classroom is the space used for the purposes of instruction to students. By way of example, to have more than twenty-one students in a K-3 classroom will require a divider, temporary or permanent. Whether the partition is temporary or permanent, the system shall obtain the approval of the fire marshal.

(k) **Instructional Extension** – a state-funded instructional program beyond the regular school day to address the academic needs of low-performing students. Included in this group are students with disabilities as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975 and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) Local boards of education and schools shall comply with maximum class sizes and schedules listed in Appendices A-F.

(b) Paraprofessionals may be used to reduce teacher/pupil ratio only as provided in the appendices. Local boards of education shall ensure that state funds earned for paraprofessionals in kindergarten shall be used to provide paraprofessional services to all kindergarten classes.

(c) A school shall not count for FTE purposes any class that exceeds the maximum class size as provided in the appendices.

(i) A school shall count vocational labs and remedial classes that exceed maximum class size only as regular classes, provided they do not exceed the maximum regular class size.

(d) The number of students taught by a teacher at any time after the first 15 school days of a school year may not exceed the maximum such number unless authorization for a specific larger number is requested of the State Board, along with the educational justification for granting the requested exemption, and the State Board has approved said request.

(e) Local boards of education not complying with maximum class size requirements shall be subject to a loss of funding for the entire class or program that is out of compliance.

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(f) The maximum class size for the kindergarten and primary grades programs is defined as the number of students in a physical classroom.

(g) For the 2003-2004 and 2004 –2005 school years, compliance with maximum class size requirements shall be determined by the system average for applicable programs and grades. Individual class size for such programs and grades shall not exceed the applicable maximum system average by more than two students.

Authority O.C.G.A. § 20-2-151(b); 20-2-152(a); 20-2-153; 20-2-154; 20-2-182(g), (h).

Adopted: August 12, 2004

Effective: September 2, 2004

APPENDIX A
Regular and Vocational Programs

	<u>FUNDING</u> <u>CLASS SIZE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u> <u>INDIVIDUAL</u>				<u>MAXIMUM</u> <u>SYSTEM AVERAGE</u>	
		<u>CLASS SIZE*</u>				<u>CLASS SIZE</u>	
		02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	03-04	04-05
Regular Kindergarten	15	19	20	20	18	18	18
With full-time paraprofessional	15	22	22	22	18	20	20
Regular Grades 1-3							
No paraprofessional	17	22	23	23	21	21	21
With full-time paraprofessional	17	24	23	23	21	21	21
Grades 4-5 (English, Math, Science, Social Studies)							
	23	30	32	32	28	30	30
Grades 6-8 (Middle Grades – English and Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies)							
	23	30	32	32	28	30	30
Grades 6-8 (Middle Schools - All academic classes as defined in Rule 160-4-2-.05 Middle School Program Criteria)							
	20	30	32	32	28	30	30
Fine Arts Grades K-3	NA	33	33	33	33	33	33
Fine Arts and Foreign Language instructional programs							
Grades 4-5	NA	33	33	33	33	33	33
Grades 6-8	NA	33	33	33	33	33	33
Grades 4-8							
All other (see exceptions)	23	33	33	33	33	33	33
Grades 9-12							
English, Math, Social Studies, Foreign Language	23	30	32	32	28	30	30
Grades 9-12							
Science	23	28	28	30	28	28	28
Grades 9-12							

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All other (see exceptions)	23	35	35	35	35	35	35
Vocational labs	20	28	28	28	28	28	28
Remedial (grades 9-12)							
No paraprofessional	15	18	18	18	18	18	18
With full-time paraprofessional	15	24	24	24	24	24	24

Exceptions to the Maximum Individual Class Size for grades K-12 shall be as follows:

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM INDIVIDUAL CLASS SIZE</u>
(i) Typing/Keyboarding	35
(ii) Instrumental Music (e.g., band, orchestra)	100
(iii) Choral Music (e.g., mixed chorus)	80
(iv) Physical Education	
No paraprofessional	40
With full-time paraprofessional	
(Elementary schools)	54
(v) Co-op Supervision	56

* Defined as class size by full-time equivalent reporting segment.

APPENDIX B
Student with Disabilities

Service Delivery Models shall be resource (R) or self-contained (SC).

CLASS GROUP/ EXCEPTION PROGRAM	FUNDING CLASS SIZE	MAXIMUM INDIVIDUAL CLASS SIZE		EXCEPTION TO MAXIMUM 2 SEGMENTS PER DAY PER TEACHER WITH A PARA- PROFESSIONAL
		*	**	
1. GROUP I				
(i) S/L-SC	8	11	15	+1
(ii) LD-SC	8	12	16	+1
2. GROUP II				
(i) MID-SC	6.5	10	13	+1
(ii) MID-R	6.5	10	13	+1
3. GROUP III				
(i) SID-SC	5	NA	7	+1
(ii) D/HH	5	6	8	+1
(iii) S/L-R	5	7	NA	NA
(iv) BD-R	5	7	10	+1
(v) LD-R	5	8	10	+1
(vi) BD-SC	5	8	11	+1
(vii) MOID-SC	5	NA	11	+1
(viii) OI-SC	5	NA	11	0
4. GROUP IV				
(i) D/HH	3	3	4	+1
(ii) VI-R	3	3	4	+1
(iii) OI-R	3	4	5	+1
(iv) VI(DB)-SC	3	NA	6	+1
(v) PID-SC	3	NA	6	0
5. GROUP V	8	NA	NA	NA

NOTE: Each paraprofessional is the equivalent to 1/3 teacher and affects individual class size proportionately. Various teacher/paraprofessional models shall be averaged independently.

NOTE: If students from different exceptionalities programs are within the same segment, the maximum class size shall be determined by the program with the smallest class size.

NOTE: Middle school and high school students served in a departmental model shall have

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an individual maximum class size of seven without a paraprofessional and ten with a paraprofessional, provided the number of students of any one exceptionality within the class does not exceed the individual maximum class size for that exceptionality.

EXCEPTION TO INDIVIDUAL MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE: The individual maximum class size with a paraprofessional may be increased as noted for two segments per day per teacher for the remainder of the school year. Maximum teacher/pupil ratio without a paraprofessional may not be increased. (See also Rule 160-4-7)

* No paraprofessional

** With paraprofessional

APPENDIX C
Gifted and Alternative Programs

<u>CLASS/GROUP EXCEPTION PROGRAM</u>	<u>FUNDING CLASS SIZE</u>	<u>MAXIMUM INDIVIDUAL CLASS SIZE</u>					
		99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05
1. GIFTED							
(i) Elementary Resource (K-5)	12	17	17	17	17	17	17
(ii) Middle School Resource and Advanced Content (6-8)	12	21	21	21	21	21	21
(iii) High School Resource and Advanced Content (9-12)	12	21	21	21	21	21	21
2. ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS							
No paraprofessional	15	NA	18	18	18	18	18
With full-time paraprofessional	15	NA	24	24	24	24	24

APPENDIX D
English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

	FUNDING CLASS SIZE *	MAXIMUM INDIVIDUAL CLASS SIZE * **	
K-3	7	9 11	
4-8	7	11 14	
9-12	7	13 18	

*No paraprofessional

**With full-time paraprofessional

APPENDIX E
Early Intervention Program (EIP)

Self-Contained and Pull-out* Models

	Funding Size	Maximum Class Size
Kindergarten	11	14
Grades 1-3	11	14
Grades 4-5	11	14

Self-contained classes may be multi-grade-level classes as long as the class size does not exceed the maximum class size.

Augmented Class Model – Kindergarten*

A state certified early childhood/elementary teacher will work for a minimum of one segment (45 minutes) with no more than 14 Early Intervention Program students.

FUNDING
CLASS SIZE

						<u>MAXIMUM SYSTEM AVERAGE CLASS SIZE</u>	
		02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	03-04	04-05
15	Maximum Class Size						
	Regular Kindergarten	19	20	20	18	18	18
	Maximum Class Size with full-time paraprofessional	22	22	22	18	20	20

A maximum of 14 EIP students may be in an augmented-class.

Augmented Class Model – Grades 1-3*

A state certified early childhood/elementary teacher will work for a minimum of one segment (45 minutes) with no more than 14 Early Intervention Program students.

FUNDING

						<u>MAXIMUM SYSTEM AVERAGE CLASS SIZE</u>	
CLASS SIZE		02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	03-04	04-05
17	Maximum Class Size	22	23	23	21	21	21
	Maximum Class Size with full-time paraprofessional	24	23	23	21	21	21

A maximum of 14 EIP students may be in an augmented class.

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Augmented Class Model – Grades 4-5*

A state certified early childhood/elementary teacher will work for a minimum of one segment (50 minutes) with no more than 14 Early Intervention Program students.

FUNDING

CLASS SIZE

MAXIMUM SYSTEM

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

		02-03	03-04	04-05	05-06	03-04	04-05
23	Maximum Class Size	30	32	32	28	30	30

A maximum of 14 EIP students may be in an augmented class.

*Under the augmented and pull-out models, students will be counted as regular segments and EIP segments to the extent necessary to equal the total number of segments served by the teacher, but not to exceed 90 segments for kindergarten, 102 segments for grades 1-3, and 138 segments for grades 4-5.

Reduced Class Model – Kindergarten

EIP Students	Non-EIP Students	Maximum Total in Class
1	14	15
2	13	15
3	11	14
4	10	14
5	9	14
6	7	13
7	6	13
8	5	13
9	3	12
10	2	12
11	1	12

A full-time paraprofessional may be used in kindergarten models to increase class size by 2 students. The 2 additional students may be either EIP or regular students.

Reduced Class Model – Grades 1-3**

EIP Students	Non-EIP Students	Maximum Total in Class
1	16	17
2	14	16
3	13	16
4	12	16
5	10	15

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6	8	14
7	7	14
8	5	13
9	4	13
10	2	12

Reduced Class Model – Grades 4-5**

EIP Students	Non-EIP Students	Maximum Total in Class
1	22	23
2	20	22
3	18	21
4	16	20
5	14	19
6	12	18
7	10	17
8	8	16
9	6	15
10	4	14
11	2	13
12	1	13

**Paraprofessionals may not be used to reduce teacher/student ratio in grades 1-5.

Reading Recovery

The Reading Recovery Program may be used as a model for the Early Intervention Program.

Funding Size

Maximum Class Size

11

14

Students served by Reading Recovery may be counted for one segment of EIP instruction for the entire year.

APPENDIX F
Instructional Extension

	<u>Funding Size</u>	<u>Maximum Individual Class Size</u>	<u>System Average Class Size</u>
After-school, Saturday, Summer, and inter-session programs	15	18	18