

Council for Lifelong Learning

Supplemental Academic Instruction



September 2001

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1.	What is the Supplemental Academic Instruction fund?	In the 1999 Legislative Session, the Legislature created the fund as part of the A+ Education Plan (Ch. 99-398, L.O.F.). This "super categorical" is a fund created to assist districts in providing supplemental instruction to students in kindergarten through grade 12. The instruction can be provided in any manner and at any time during or beyond the 180 day regular school year.
		In the 2000 Legislative Session, the categorical was folded into the Florida Education Finance Program as a separate allocation; however, the fund is no longer considered a categorical. The flexible uses for the funds still remain.
		In the 2001-2002 General Appropriations Act, the Legislature appropriated \$676.7 million for supplemental academic instruction (Specific Appropriation 118).
2.	Why was the fund initially created?	The fund was created for two main reasons: 1) to address the school districts' requests for more flexibility, and 2) to provide additional resources to districts to help students gain at least a year's worth of knowledge for each year in school. Prior to the creation of the Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) fund, districts were given resources for summer school and supplemental instruction with much more tightly controlled and restrictive funds.
3.	For what purposes can SAI funds be used?	School districts have great flexibility with the use of the SAI funds. Districts may use the funds to provide supplemental instruction to any student in any manner at any time during or beyond the school year.
		Supplemental instruction strategies may include, but are not limited to: • modified curriculum • reading instruction • after-school instruction • tutoring • mentoring • class size reduction • extension of the school year • intensive skills development in summer school • other methods

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4.	Has summer school funding been eliminated?	No. SAI funds may still be used to provide summer school education. A district has complete discretion to use its own allocation of SAI funds in any manner and at any time that it believes will best provide supplemental instruction for the district's students. District A may choose to dedicate its entire allocation to after-school programs and Saturday morning classes, while District B may choose to dedicate its entire allocation to continue to provide summer school in the same fashion as it had traditionally.
5.	Are districts required to use the funds solely for remediation?	No. A district is not required to use the SAI funds solely for remediation. A district has complete discretion to use the funds in any manner and at any time that it believes will best provide supplemental instruction for the district's students. In s. 230.23(16)(c), F.S., the Legislature does encourage school boards to prioritize the use of the SAI funds to improve student performance in schools graded "D" or "F." However, this Legislative encouragement in no way restricts the local school board's determination of the use of the funds.
6.	What funding sources were initially used to create the fund?	In 1999, there were three funding sources that were combined to become a portion of the SAI Fund. These funds were: the K-8 summer school categorical, 9-12 FTE funds for summer school, and the weighted portion of dropout prevention funds.
7.	What are the applicable statutes and rules?	Section 236.08104, F.S Supplemental Academic Instruction
8.	Where can I get additional information?	The Florida House of Representatives Committee on Education Appropriations (850) 488-6204 The Florida House of Representatives Council for Lifelong Learning (850) 414-6694 The Florida House of Representatives Committee on Education Innovation
		(850) 488-7451