Dividing Full-Time ASCENT Slots

A Local Education Providers (LEP) can offer ASCENT opportunities to more students than it has allocated slots; for example dividing a full-time slot into two part-time slots for two separate students.* However, it will be the LEP's responsibility to ensure that:

- Funding eligibility for all ASCENT students (regardless of funding eligibility) is reported accurately, and;
- All required audit documentation is collected and retained.

NOTE: LEPs will only be eligible for a maximum ASCENT funding equal to the number of allocated ASCENT slots.

* Please contact Mary Anne Hunter if you are considering dividing your slots to a dollar amount that covers less than part-time enrollment.

The LEP must ensure that each student occupying an ASCENT slot:
1. Meets the program requirements as outline on the ASCENT webpage
2. Is reported correctly in the End-of-Year data submission preceding the ASCENT year including, but not limited to the following fields:
    - Exit Type Code
    - Retention Code
3. Is reported correctly in the Student October Count data submission during the ASCENT year including, but not limited to the following fields:
    - Postsecondary Program Enrollment code
    - Public School Finance Funding Status
        - Click here for specific information
4. Meets the funding eligibility requirements during the semester of the pupil enrollment count date (regardless of funding level eligibility). Failure to meet these requirements may (1) impact the district's ability to receive additional slots if any are relinquished from other LEPs and/or (2) result in exceptions and the district/authorizer having to repay ASCENT funds received during the subsequent pupil count audit.
    - Please see the Student October Count Audit Resource Guide for funding and audit documentation requirements

Sample Scenario

An LEP has been allocated five (5) new ASCENT slots for the 2019-20 school year, and has ten (10) students who have applied to participate. After confirming that each student meets the requirements to participate in ASCENT, the LEP decides to extend the opportunity to all ten students.

Considerations:

The LEP will:

- Be funded for a maximum of five (5) ASCENT slots ONLY.
- Needs to ensure that all ten (10) students are reported correctly in the 2018-19 End-of-Year data submission
- Needs to ensure that it accounts for all allocated ASCENT slots (5.0) in the 2019 Student October data submission
    - For example, the LEP could:
        - Report five (5) students as eligible for full-time (5.0 slots) funding, and five (5) students as not eligible for funding (0.0 slot) **OR**
        - Report 10 students as eligible for part-time funding (5.0 slots) **OR**
        - Report three (3) students as eligible for full-time funding (3.0 slots), four (4) students as eligible for part-time (2.0 slots) and 3 students as not eligible for funding (0.0 slot), etc.
- Need to ensure it has appropriate audit documentation evidencing funding eligibility
    - For example, the LEP will need to:
        - Make sure it has institution of higher education (IHE) attendance verification for every ASCENT student (regardless of funding eligibility/reporting)
        - Make sure it has documentation evidencing funding level eligibility for each submitted student
            - Part-time (0.5 slot): LEP has documentation showing it paid for at least 3 credit hours for the student during the semester of the pupil enrollment count date.
            - Full-time (1.0 slot): LEP has documentation showing it paid for at least 12 credit hours for the student during the semester of the pupil enrollment count date.