



MEMORANDUM

To: Special Education Directors
From: Jay Sullivan, Associate Commissioner, District and School Finance
Date: November 15, 2024
Subject: Updated In-District Services for Circuit Breaker Claiming

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will roll out a new special education Circuit Breaker claim system in 2025. This upgrade will provide an online platform for districts to claim expenses for reimbursement through the Circuit Breaker program and will replace use of an Excel-based claim file.

As part of this transition, the Department has updated the list of services to be used when claiming in-district and supplemental services.

The categories and types of services that are qualified for reimbursement through the circuit breaker program have not changed. However, the in-district service names have been updated to more accurately reflect current naming conventions and provide additional specificity. Our goal is to make it easier for districts to describe and be reimbursed for special education services being provided to students.

The second page of this memo provides the updated in-district services list along with FY25 rates. These will be available for claiming beginning with FY25 circuit breaker relief in March 2025. Additionally, an [in-district services calculator](#) is available on the circuit breaker website as a tool to help districts identify where in-district expenses meet or exceed the claiming threshold of \$52,419 for FY25.

If you have questions about in-district services or additional preparation for the new Circuit Breaker claim system, please contact your [district liaison](#) or email circuitbreaker@mass.gov.

Updated In-District Service Listing for Circuit Breaker Claims (Revised December 3, 2024)

In-District or Supplemental Service	FY25 Individual Hourly Rates ¹
Category A	
Specialty Consultation Services (Doctorate level)	\$141.12
Ophthalmologist	\$141.12
Category B	
Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)	\$90.48
Category C	
Adaptive Physical Education (APE) instructor	\$85.04
Alternative-Augmentative Communication (AAC) instructor	\$85.04
Audiologist	\$85.04
Occupational Therapist (OT)	\$85.04
Orientation and Mobility (O&M) specialist	\$85.04
Physical Therapist (PT)	\$85.04
School Adjustment Counselor ²	\$85.04
School Psychologist ²	\$85.04
Social Worker / Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) ²	\$85.04
Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)	\$85.04
Category D	
Special Education Teacher	\$74.48
Autism Specialist ^{3,4}	\$74.48
Registered Nurse (RN) ⁵	\$74.48
Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing ³	\$74.48
Teacher of the Visually Impaired ³	\$74.48
Transitions Specialist ^{3,4}	\$74.48
Category E	
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) ⁵	\$56.64
Category F	
Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) provider	\$36.00
Assistive Technology Specialist	\$36.00
Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA)	\$36.00
Interpreter for the Deaf (ASL)	\$36.00
Job Coach / Educational Coach	\$36.00
Music Therapist	\$36.00
Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA)	\$36.00
Recreation Therapist	\$36.00
Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLA)	\$36.00
Category G	
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	\$26.88
Paraprofessional	\$26.88
Personal Care Assistant (PCA)	\$26.88

¹ Rate for services provided on an individual basis. Proration applies to small group and group service delivery.

² FY25 provides School Adjustment Counselor, School Psychologist, and Social Worker/Licensed Mental Health Counselor categories rather than a single Counseling category.

³ Additional category added for FY25.

⁴ Requires [Endorsement from the DESE Office of Educator Licensure](#).

⁵ FY25 provides Licensed Practical Nurse and Registered Nurse categories, rather than a single Nursing Services category