DOE/CDS Special Purpose Preschool Payment in FY24/25 Budget (pages 353-354)

H.P. 163 - L.D. 258 ***An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2023, June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025***
Link to full budget document here:
http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0163&item=14&snum=131

Adopted Budget Language DOE/CDS Special Purpose Preschool Payment
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Sec. YYY-1. 20-A MRSA §7302, sub-§2, ¶G is enacted to read:
G. A special purpose private preschool that provides both educational and medically necessary behavioral health services to children with disabilities who have not attained 6 years of age is entitled to receive payment for the educational services the preschool provides for the Child Development Services System. Before the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, the Child Development Services System shall collaborate with special purpose private preschools to establish a funding formula that provides appropriate daily tuition rates for the educational services provided by each special purpose private preschool. The funding formula for the daily tuition rates must include, but is not limited to, the costs of supporting each preschool's site director and teachers and allocations for agency support staff, supplies, equipment, curricula, staff development, technology and non instructional expenses such as heating, insurance, maintenance, occupancy costs, office supplies, phones and utilities.

Sec. YYY-2. Intermediate payments. *No later than the start of the 2023-2024 school year and prior to the provision of the daily tuition rate in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7302, subsection 2, paragraph G, the Department of Education and the Child Development Services System shall assist in maintaining education programming at special purpose private preschools by providing payments for specially designed instruction provided by each special purpose private preschool at a rate of $125 per day, per child, for scheduled school days in accordance with a child's individualized education program. The Department of Education and the Child Development Services System shall make the payments for specially designed instruction provided by special purpose private preschools from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Sec. YYY-3. Report.* ***No later than December 15, 2023,*** *the Department of Education shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on the development of the funding formula for daily tuition rates under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7302, subsection 2, paragraph G, including recommendations and suggested legislation. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.*

Sec. YYY-4. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Child Development Services program. *Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer $15,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Education, Child Development Services Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to fund the payments required under section 2.*