

Ride 4 A Reason Policy for Proportional Distribution of Proceeds to Promote Equity

Ride 4 A Reason (R4R) champions increased funding for California public education by supporting eleven East Bay schools with financial needs. While initially all 11 beneficiaries were Title I schools when R4R was founded in 2009, over the years the schools have experienced shifting demographics resulting in varying economic changes at the site level. **Starting in 2025, Ride for a Reason is amending our distribution policy to reflect these shifts and move from an “equal” distribution to an “equitable” distribution.**

Based on a review of the percentage of students that qualify for free- and reduced-price lunches - a commonly available measure of economic status - we have found significant variation between the schools we serve. Our new equity-centered distribution model is designed to respond to this variance and provide greater support to schools with greater need.

Table 1. R4R Beneficiary Demographics as of 2022¹

Beneficiary	% Free/Reduced-Price Meals	Total Enrollment
Encinal Middle and High (Alameda)	32	1120
Edna Brewer	48	770
Montera	51	620
Oakland Tech	55	1880
Skyline	71	1570
Emerson Elementary	73	320
Westlake	89	280
Roosevelt	92	570
Life Academy	95	450
Oakland International	98	275

Beginning in 2025, R4R beneficiary schools will fall into three categories based on the portion of students that are low-income as measured by free and reduced lunch rates.

1. Legacy Schools (former Title I schools, < 40 percent low-income);
2. Title I Schools (where at-least 40 percent of students are low-income); and
3. Highest-Need Schools (where 70 percent-or-more of students are low-income).

¹ Equity Allies for OUSD also is an R4R beneficiary. All the schools they support meet the R4R definition of Highest-Need. With regard to distribution of proceeds, R4R considers Equity Allies as our “eleventh” school, a school which meets our definition of Highest-Need. For more info about Equity Allies, please go to: <https://www.equityalliesforousd.org/>

To promote the goal of educational equity, there is consensus within the R4R Planning Committee that we should give a greater percentage of proceeds to schools that have higher percentages of low-income students. To deliver on our promise of equitably supporting our beneficiary schools, R4R is adopting a 70-15-15 formula for proportional distribution of proceeds from the ride. The formula works as follows:

- 70% proceeds are pooled in a Base-Fund, all beneficiaries receive an equal share;
- 15% proceeds are pooled into a Booster-Fund, all Title I schools receive an equal share; and
- 15% proceeds are pooled into a Rocket-Fund, all the Highest-Need schools receive an equal share.

To get a sense of how this could affect distribution of proceeds in 2025, and specifically the amount that schools in each defined category would receive, we crunched the numbers for a few example scenarios. Assuming we raise the same amount as we did in 2024 (\$145,000), beginning in 2025, proportional distribution of proceeds would be as follows (Table 2a):

Table 2a. We raise as much as we did in 2024

Legacy Schools	\$9,200	Former Title I schools, < 40 percent low-income
Title I Schools	\$11,400	At least 40 percent of students are low-income
Highest-Need Schools	\$14,400	70 percent-or-more of students are low-income

Assuming we raise approximately \$200,000, the proportional distribution of proceeds, beginning in 2025, would be as follows (Table 2b.):

Table 2b. We raise \$200,000 (\$55,000 more than we did in 2024)

Legacy Schools	\$12,300	Former Title I schools, < 40 percent low-income
Title I Schools	\$15,300	At least 40 percent of students are low-income
Highest-Need Schools	\$19,600	70 percent-or-more of students are low-income

As an equity-centered organization, R4R is energized by our new distribution model and we hope you are too. Together, we can shift awareness and funding for our public schools.

Register to ride at: <https://www.r4rschools.org/Race/Register/?raceId=100657>

Become a sponsor at: <https://www.r4rschools.org/Race/R4RWalkRunRide/Page/sponsor>

Make a pledge of support to a rider at:

<https://www.r4rschools.org/Race/Donate/CA/Oakland/R4RWalkRunRide>

