

Analysis of New York City's  
2009-2010 Approved  
Contract for Excellence  
Allocations

Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Inc.  
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## CFE’s Comparison of New York City’s Proposed and Approved 2009-10 Contract for Excellence Allocations

The New York State Contract for Excellence was initiated as the accountability component of the reform legislation resolving the Campaign for Fiscal Equity litigation that was intended to correct the disparities in school funding ordered by the New York Court of Appeals in 2006. In Year 3 the New York City Department of Education (DOE) received \$387.5 million intended for expanded programming in the city’s public schools during the 2009-10 school year. This constituted a freeze on funding at the 2008-09 level rather than an increase. DOE was still required to account for the dollars spent under the Contract in 2009-10. This report compares the allocations proposed by DOE in September 2009 with the allocations approved by the State Education Department.<sup>1</sup>

The approved contract re-allocated substantial funding—\$21 million—to the Time on Task program. The majority of this funding—\$16 million or 77 percent—came from the Class Size Reduction program. The remainder came from the Teacher and Principal Quality and Middle and High School Restructuring programs and from funding not allocated in the proposed plan. The approved plan allocated increased funding to two additional programs—Full Day Pre-Kindergarten and Model Programs for English Language Learners.

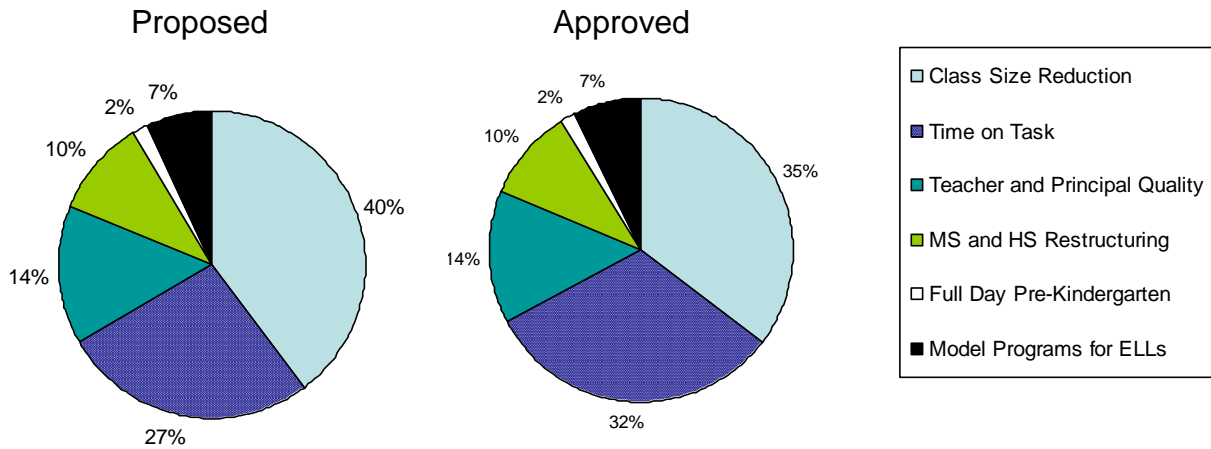
### Comparison of Proposed and Approved Allocations by Contract Programs

Program	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Final	Change
<b>Class Size Reduction</b>	\$152,888,211	\$136,781,997	(\$16,106,214)
<b>Time on Task</b>	\$103,184,000	\$124,067,077	\$20,883,077
<b>Teacher and Principal Quality</b>	\$55,572,999	\$54,768,603	(\$804,396)
<b>Middle and High School Restructuring</b>	\$38,537,397	\$37,267,979	(\$1,269,418)
<b>Full Day Pre-Kindergarten</b>	\$6,447,662	\$6,951,126	\$503,464
<b>Model Programs for English Language Learners</b>	\$27,027,927	\$27,669,553	\$641,626
<b>Total</b>	\$383,658,196	\$387,506,335	\$3,848,139

The proposed allocation includes \$3,848,139 in funds not allocated to a program.

The pie charts below compare the percentages of Contract dollars allocated to each program in the proposed and approved plans. They illustrate the decrease in spending on Class Size Reduction and the increase in spending on Time on Task. Even with its decreased allocation, Class Size Reduction received the largest percentage of funding.

<sup>1</sup> Data for the approved plan came from the file *FY10ApprovedC4ESpendingPlan\_ForWeb*. Data for the proposed plan came from the file *FY10ProposedC4EAllocations\_ComprehensiveBySchool*. Both files were obtained from DOE’s Web site.



### Class Size Reduction

The approved allocation for Class Size Reduction was \$16 million (11 percent) lower than DOE’s proposed allocation. The allocations went to 62 (seven percent) fewer schools; the mean allocation per funded school was reduced by over \$6 thousand. The Contract allows two strategies under this program. The Reduced Class Size strategy is implemented by creating more classes; the Reduce Pupil-Teacher Ratio strategy is implemented by hiring additional teachers to work with students in existing classes. The majority of the decrease—\$14 million—was for Reduced Class Sizes. This change may have responded to CFE’s analysis demonstrating that funding allocated in 2008-09 for Reduced Class Size resulted in little meaningful change in class size. CFE’s research shows that very few K-5 schools that received funding for creating additional class rooms in 2008-09 actually reduced general education class size by two students or more (the minimum reduction that could possibly be effective). A DOE report stated that average weighted class size in funded schools was 23.29 in 2007-08 and 23.01 in 2008-09. Ninety-six fewer schools received allocations for Reduced Class Size and, for the schools still receiving funds for this strategy, the average allocation was reduced by \$3.6 thousand. Sixteen fewer schools received funds to hire additional teachers to Reduce Pupil-Teacher Ratio, resulting in a small increase in the average allocation for this strategy.

#### Total Allocations for Class Size Reduction

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Reduced Class Size	\$69,505,934	\$55,462,286	(\$14,043,648)
Reduced Pupil-Teacher Ratio	\$83,382,277	\$81,319,711	(\$2,062,566)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$152,888,211</b>	<b>\$136,781,997</b>	<b>(\$16,106,214)</b>

#### Mean School Allocation for Class Size Reduction

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Reduced Class Size	\$129,918	\$126,338	(\$3,580)
Reduced Pupil-Teacher Ratio	\$140,611	\$140,935	\$324
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$178,399</b>	<b>\$172,053</b>	<b>(\$6,346)</b>

### Number of Schools with Allocations for Class Size Reduction

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Reduced Class Size	535	439	(96)
Reduced Pupil-Teacher Ratio	593	577	(16)
<b>Total</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>(62)</b>

### Time on Task

The approved allocation for Time on Task was \$21 million (20 percent) higher than DOE's proposed allocation. These allocations went to 82 additional schools; the mean allocation per funded school was increased by \$11 thousand. While the allocation for the program increased, the allocation for the Before and After Schools strategy was reduced by \$30 million (79 percent). Five hundred thirty-nine (539) schools lost funding for providing a longer school day. The increase in the program allocation and the decrease in the Before and After Schools strategy allocation made an additional \$51 million available for other strategies under this program. Sixty percent of these funds—\$30 million—was allocated to summer school; the remaining \$21 million to Dedicated Instruction. An additional 683 schools received funding for summer school. It is unclear whether this increased allocation for the Summer School strategy supplanted City funds that otherwise would have been allocated to summer schools.

### Total Allocations for Time on Task

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Before & After School	\$37,983,627	\$7,856,100	(\$30,127,527)
Summer School	\$416,202	\$30,385,571	\$29,969,369
Dedicated Instruction	\$58,828,767	\$79,884,671	\$21,055,904
Individualized Tutoring	\$5,955,403	\$5,940,735	(\$14,668)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$103,184,000</b>	<b>\$124,067,077</b>	<b>\$20,883,077</b>

### Mean School Allocation for Time on Task

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Before & After School	\$44,898	\$25,590	(\$19,308)
Summer School	\$14,352	\$42,676	\$28,325
Dedicated Instruction	\$101,780	\$108,687	\$6,907
Individualized Tutoring	\$54,637	\$54,502	(\$135)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$91,152</b>	<b>\$102,197</b>	<b>\$11,045</b>

### Number of Schools with Allocations for Time on Task

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Before & After School	846	307	(539)
Summer School	29	712	683
Dedicated Instruction	578	735	157
Individualized Tutoring	109	109	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>82</b>

### Teacher and Principal Quality

The approved allocation for Teacher and Principal Quality was reduced by less than \$1 million or 1.4 percent. Allocations for this purpose went to two additional schools. These two changes reduced the mean allocation per funded school by less than one thousand dollars. The majority (60 percent) of the program decrease—\$0.48 million—was for the Teacher Coaches

strategy. This reduction and an increase of seven in the number of funded schools reduced the average allocation for Teacher Coaches by \$2.6 thousand. Similarly, the average allocation for Mentoring New Staff was reduced by almost \$6 thousand.

### Total Allocations for Teacher and Principal Quality

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Recruit & Retain HQT	\$4,159,115	\$4,107,346	(\$51,769)
Mentoring New Staff	\$4,963,093	\$4,868,768	(\$94,325)
Teacher Coaches	\$31,835,770	\$31,352,084	(\$483,686)
Leadership Coaches	\$14,615,022	\$14,440,405	(\$174,617)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,572,999</b>	<b>\$54,768,603</b>	<b>(\$804,396)</b>

### Mean School Allocation for Teacher and Principal Quality

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Recruit & Retain HQT	\$55,455	\$55,505	\$50
Mentoring New Staff	\$60,526	\$54,705	(\$5,820)
Teacher Coaches	\$81,007	\$78,380	(\$2,627)
Leadership Coaches	\$16,078	\$15,869	(\$210)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$51,504</b>	<b>\$50,665</b>	<b>(\$839)</b>

### Number of Schools with Allocations for Teacher and Principal Quality

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Recruit & Retain HQT	75	74	(1)
Mentoring New Staff	82	89	7
Teacher Coaches	393	400	7
Leadership Coaches	909	910	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,079</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>2</b>

### Middle and High School Restructuring

The approved allocation for Middle and High School Restructuring was reduced by \$1.3 million (three percent). This reduction came from the Instructional Changes strategy, which also lost \$64 thousand reallocated to Structural Changes. This reduction in funding was accompanied by an increase of 36 in the number of schools receiving funding for Instructional Changes. These modifications reduced the average allocation for this strategy by \$26 thousand. The average increase to each of the 26 schools seeking to employ the Structural Changes strategy was \$2.4 thousand.

### Total Allocations for Middle and High School Restructuring

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Instructional Changes	\$35,111,921	\$33,778,895	(\$1,333,026)
Structural Changes	\$3,425,475	\$3,489,084	63,609
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38,537,397</b>	<b>\$37,267,979</b>	<b>(\$1,269,418)</b>

### Mean School Allocation for Middle and High School Restructuring

Strategy	FY10 Proposed Allocation	FY10 Submitted Allocation	Change
Instructional Changes	\$152,661	\$126,988	(\$25,672)
Structural Changes	\$131,749	\$134,196	\$2,447
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$161,922</b>	<b>\$136,015</b>	<b>(\$25,907)</b>

### Number of Schools with Allocations for Middle and High School Restructuring

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
Instructional Changes	230	266	36
Structural Changes	26	26	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>36</b>

### Full Day Pre-Kindergarten

The approved plan allocated an additional \$0.5 million (eight percent) to this program. These dollars were used to fund an additional nine schools, reducing the average allocation by almost \$6 thousand.

### Total Allocations for Full Day Pre-Kindergarten

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,447,662</b>	<b>\$6,951,126</b>	<b>\$503,464</b>

### Mean School Allocation for Full Day Pre-Kindergarten

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$102,344</b>	<b>\$96,543</b>	<b>(\$5,800)</b>

### Number of Schools with Allocations for Full Day Pre-Kindergarten

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>9</b>

### Model Programs for English Language Learners (ELLs)

This program received an additional \$0.6 million (two percent) in funding to provide programs to 71 additional schools. The increased number of schools receiving funding resulted in a reduction in the mean allocation of almost \$16 thousand. The Parent Involvement allocation was reduced by \$44 thousand, decreasing the average allocation for this strategy by over \$4 thousand. The majority (84 percent) of the program increase was allocated to Innovative Programs. Sixty-nine additional schools received funding for creating Innovative Programs, resulting in a decrease in the average allocation for this strategy of nearly \$16 thousand. The Teacher Recruitment strategy, which received no allocation in the proposal, was allocated \$145 thousand, providing four schools with an average allocation of \$36 thousand.

### Total Allocations for Model Programs for English Language Learners

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
ELL Parent Involvement	\$284,799	\$240,471	(\$44,328)
Innovative Programs for ELLs	\$26,743,127	\$27,284,018	\$540,891
ELL Teacher Recruitment	\$0	\$145,064	\$145,064
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,027,927</b>	<b>\$27,669,553</b>	<b>\$641,626</b>

### Mean School Allocation for Model Programs for English Language Learners

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
ELL Parent Involvement	\$28,480	\$24,047	(\$4,433)
Innovative Programs for ELLs	\$90,655	\$74,956	(\$15,699)
ELL Teacher Recruitment	\$0	\$36,266	\$36,266
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$90,394</b>	<b>\$74,783</b>	<b>(\$15,612)</b>

### Number of Schools with Allocations for Model Programs for English Language Learners

Strategy	FY10 Proposed	FY10 Approved	Change
ELL Parent Involvement	10	10	0
Innovative Programs for ELLs	295	364	69
ELL Teacher Recruitment	0	4	4
<b>Total</b>	299	370	71

### The 75/50 Rule

Commissioner’s Regulations require that 75 percent of Contract dollars be allocated to schools where the concentration of student need is above the City median. This requirement is referred to as the 75/50 rule. The approved allocation of Contract dollars complies with this requirement. The approved Contract allocated a slightly smaller percentage of Contract dollars to schools in the top 50 percent of need than the proposed allocation. The proposal allocated 77.3 percent of Contract dollars—an average of \$395,375—to the 758 schools with the greatest need; the approved Contract allocated 76.4 percent—an average of \$390,687—to these schools.

### Comparison of Proposed and Approved Allocations to Schools in the Top and Bottom 50 Percent of Need

Allocation	SED Need Designation			
	Top 50%		Bottom 50%	
	Proposed Allocation	Approved Allocation	Proposed Allocation	Approved Allocation
School Mean	\$395,375	\$390,687	\$122,643	\$127,605
<b>Total</b>	\$299,694,094	\$296,141,085	\$87,812,239	\$91,365,250

### Summary

The most significant change was the re-allocation of dollars from the Class Size Reduction program to the Time on Task program. Within the Time on Task program, the approved Contract focused funding on two strategies—Summer School and Dedicated Instruction. The proposal allocated \$59 million or 15 percent of total allocations to these two strategies. Under the approved Contract, \$110 million or 28.5 percent was allocated to these strategies.

The proposed Contract allocated 40 percent to the Reduced Class Size program; the approved contract allocated 35 percent to this program; it remained the largest program. The largest sums were taken from the Reduced Class Size strategy (\$14 million) and the Before and After School strategy (\$30 million). It appears that summer schools traditionally funded by New York City were funded with Contract dollars at the expense of extended day programs.