

## The Constitutional Right to a Sufficient Education

While districts received additional operational money for the 2019/2020 school year, they were unable to provide necessary programs and services for students because the money was spent on required salary increases and hiring additional teachers to reduce class sizes, as required by law.

The Court considered statewide data and evidence from 23 Focus Districts. Recent interviews with all 23 Districts confirm on-going deficiencies in programming for at risk students:

1. Alamogordo
2. Albuquerque
3. Bernalillo
4. Cuba
5. Española
6. Gadsden
7. Gallup McKinley
8. Grants-Cibola
9. Hatch
10. Jemez Valley
11. Lake Arthur
12. Las Cruces
  
13. Los Lunas
14. Magdalena
15. Moriarty-Edgewood
16. Peñasco
17. Pojoaque
18. Rio Rancho
19. Santa Fe
20. Silver City
21. Taos
22. Tucumcari
23. Zuni

For the 2019/2020 school year, districts have been unable to:

- Cover the cost of transportation with transportation funds
- Cover the cost of instructional materials with instructional materials funds
- Provide sufficient technology
- Implement the NM Indian Education Act
- Provide culturally and linguistically relevant instruction or materials
- Expand English language learner and bilingual programs
- Hire additional social workers, counselors, or nurses
- Expand professional development for teachers and administrators
- Provide necessary services and instruction to students with disabilities
- Provide K-5 Plus and/or Extended Learning Time to all the students who need it
- Provide full day pre-K to all the children who need it

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Barriers districts experienced in providing K-5 Plus and Extended Learning Program:

- Requirements for K-5 Plus were too strict for districts to implement and were unrealistic for small school districts to adhere to.
- There was not enough time to get buy-in from districts or to recruit teachers to implement program.
- Many districts did not apply for programs because the amount districts would receive would not cover the cost of the program.
- Districts that did receive K-5 Plus funding and who were unable to meet the strict requirements had to supplement the program cost with operational funding.