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ARSENIO ROMERO, PH.D.
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

December 5, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Charter School Administrators, State-Supported School Administrators, and Bureau of Indian Education Administrators

FROM: Amanda DeBell, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation DS aDB

RE: International Baccalaureate Exam Fee Waiver Increase

The New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) is pleased to announce an increase in the exam fee waiver for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) exam fees.

Consistent with other exam fee waiver programs, the NMPED will reimburse LEAs for 51 percent of completed college-credit-bearing exams for economically disadvantaged students, rather than the previously announced flat reimbursement of $50 per exam.

Completion of the IB Exam Waiver Survey has been extended until January 12, 2024.

The following terms have not changed:

Students must individually qualify for the IB exam fee waiver regardless of the school district or school Community Eligibility Provision or Title I status. Please review the guidance below to support determining student eligibility:

Primary Criteria for School Districts and Schools Not Participating in Community Eligibility

- Families must complete the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) application to determine eligibility.

Primary Criteria for School Districts and Schools Participating in Community Eligibility

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- School districts must work with their STARS/Nova coordinator to review the "poverty code" for each student located in the Nutrition reports to determine eligibility.

The reimbursement for each IB DP exam taken by eligible students will be reimbursed to the school after the completion of the exam. IB schools will be responsible for submitting a Request for Reimbursement (RfR) through the Operating Budget Management System (OBMS).

For more information, contact Tierney.Roberts@ped.nm.gov or call (505) 629-6139.

al/md/tr

cc: Arsenio Romero, Secretary of Education
Jacqueline Costales, Director, Curriculum and Instruction Division
Breezy Gutierrez, Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau
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