

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 2008****LR 2839(01)****An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and Clarify Sending School Administrative Unit Obligations****Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill****Sponsor: Sen. Grohoski of Hancock****Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs****Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Potential State Mandate - Unfunded

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$1,055,000	\$650,000	\$650,000
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$1,055,000	\$650,000	\$650,000

State Mandates**Required Activity**

Requires a school administrative unit (SAUs) that does not operate or contract with a secondary school to pay the cost of attendance, including room and board, for a student in that unit to attend the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM). State funding to an SAU is calculated on the basis of a pupil count that excludes any students in that SAU attending the MSSM, and so this requirement would likely necessitate additional expenditures from local revenue.

Unit Affected

School

Local CostModerate
limited scope

The required local activities in this bill may represent a state mandate pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. If the bill does require a local unit of government to expand or modify its activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenue, the state mandate provisions of the Constitution of Maine require either: (1) General Fund appropriations be provided to fund at least 90% of any additional necessitated local costs of the mandate; or (2) a Mandate Preamble be added to the bill and two-thirds of the members of each House vote to exempt the mandate from the funding requirement. If the bill does represent a state mandate and neither one of these actions occurs, the local units of government will not be required to implement the mandated activities.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations totaling \$650,000 in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the Department of Education (DOE) to support the administrative operations of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM) and give financial support to in-state students attending MSSM who demonstrate a financial need related to paying room and board expenses. The bill also includes a one-time General Fund appropriation totaling \$405,000 in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the DOE for infrastructure upgrades to MSSM's dormitory.