



# Scottsdale Schools Override Continuation Frequently Asked Questions

Scottsdale Unified School District Governing Board has scheduled a special budget election for November 5, 2019 to extend the current 15% M&O Override. Voters will be asked to continue to increase (override) existing state budget limits by 15%.

In order to reduce costs, this election will be held through a mail-in ballot only. All registered voters living in the Scottsdale Unified School District boundaries will receive a mail-in ballot. The voter registration deadline is October 7, 2019. No polling places will be open to cast a vote or return a ballot. Ballots must be returned via U.S. Mail by October 29, 2019 to ensure receipt by the election deadline.

**Mail-In Ballot  
ONLY  
Mark & Mail by  
October 29<sup>th</sup>**

## What is an override?

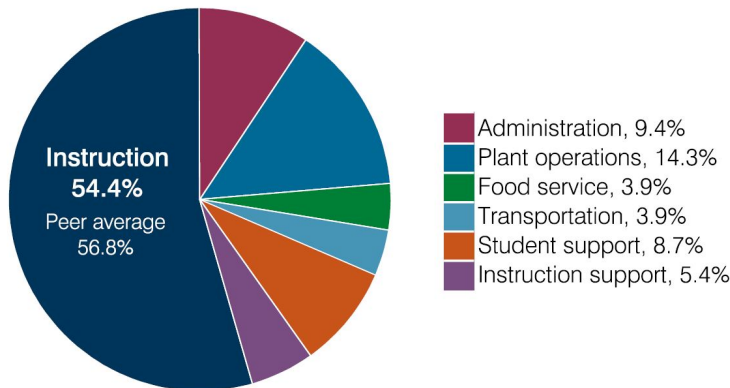
Since 1980, the Arizona Legislature has allowed school districts to supplement their base budgets by asking voters in their local districts to approve a budget override. If approved by voters, this override will allow SUSD to continue to supplement its operation budget by 15% more each year than the state provided funds. This election authorizes the continuation for seven years (2021-2028).

## Has SUSD been operating under an override?

Yes. SUSD's last voter-approved 15% override began in 2014-2015. This authorization must be re-approved to continue the full 15% M&O Override starting in 2020-2021.

## How does SUSD spend its annual Operations Budget?

### Spending by operational area



## How will the override funding be used?

SUSD anticipates that the funds generated by the proposed override will be used in the following ways:



- ✓ Maintain current class size ratios.
- ✓ Continue to provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of Fine Arts and participate in Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities.
- ✓ Continue to provide competitive teacher compensation.
- ✓ Continue emphasis on technology.
- ✓ Maintain all-day Kindergarten.
- ✓ Continuation of staff professional learning.

## What will be the cost of the proposed override?

The estimated cost of the override is \$13.75 /month for a \$431,910 home and would be funded by an estimated \$0.38 cents tax rate per \$100 of net assessed valuation.

## How will the override funds be distributed?

Funds raised through overrides go directly to the local school district, unlike state tax funds that are allocated to school districts throughout the state. Overrides offer local control to the community.

## How can we be sure SUSD will spend the money the way it was intended?

Each year, the school district administration proposes the annual budget, which is then reviewed, finalized, and approved by the community-elected governing board. SUSD has made great strides to be transparent with budgetary decisions by posting transactions online, live streaming board meetings, presenting quarterly financial reports, and involving community members in the budgeting process.

SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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OF SCOTTSDALE, EAST PHOENIX,  
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