

Education Law Section 2053: School District and BOCES Reporting

Section 2053 of the Education Law requires that every school district and BOCES shall, on or before the forty-fifth day after the commencement of its fiscal year, file a report to the state, specifying: (a) all lawyers who provide legal services to such district or board; (b) whether such district or board hired such lawyers as employees; and (c) all remuneration and compensation paid for legal services. These reports were initially managed by the State Office of the Attorney General. In recent years, the responsibility transitioned to the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

NYSED has created an electronic survey in the SEDMonitoring reporting system to streamline the submission process. The survey will allow districts and BOCES to electronically submit information for use by NYSED, Office of the Attorney General, and Office of the State Comptroller, as required under the statute. The electronic filing system and instructions are now available via the Internet through the NYSED Business Portal @ <http://portal.nysed.gov>. For further guidance on the section 2053 reporting process, please visit <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/mgtserv/2053/>

Although the statutory reporting deadline for the 2016-17 school year passed prior to our completion of the data collection tool, the Office of the State Comptroller recently requested that that school districts and BOCES submit the information that would have been reported earlier in the school year. This would be the information that would apply to expenses and services provided during the school district's 2015-16 fiscal year. Per this request, school districts and BOCES should submit the report on 2015-16 expenses and services through the NYSED Business Portal by June 30, 2017. If you have questions on completing the report, please contact Althea Johnson @ althea.johnson@nysed.gov.