

# REMODELING REQUESTS

Costs associated with remodeling due to the unique needs of a student or students with a disability are allowable under IDEA grants. A project is considered “remodeling” rather than “construction” if the alterations are to a previously completed building and the cost of the project is \$100,000 or less. The remodeling costs **must** be an excess cost of special education. Costs must be necessary and reasonable. Districts must have prior approval from DPI to use IDEA funds for remodeling. The approval process is completed through the web-based IDEA budget.

Requests for remodeling projects are available in the Capital section (500 objects) of the IDEA budget:

## Capital Objects Section (500 Objects) - Flow-through ?

Capital Object:	Transition - Employment Skills	WUFAR & Description:	255000-Facilities Acquisition/Remodeling
Local WUFAR Detail:	Equipment Equipment Rental Playground Equipment (Accessibility Only)	Estimated Cost:	<input type="text"/>
Detailed Description:	<b>Remodeling (Excess Cost Only)</b> Site Rental for LEA Use (limited) Transition - Employment Skills Transition - Independent Living Transportation Equipment Vehicle Purchase Vehicle Rental		<input type="button" value="Add"/>

The remodeling budget item is available in the capital section (500 objects) of the flow-through and preschool entitlement and recovery budgets, but not CEIS. Remodeling is not an allowable cost for coordinated early intervening services funds.

When “Remodeling (Excess Cost Only)” is selected, the district will be required to answer additional questions that will provide DPI with the information necessary to approve or disapprove the request to use IDEA funds for remodeling:

Capital Object:	Remodeling (Excess Cost Only)	WUFAR & Description:	255300-Remodeling
Local WUFAR Detail:	<input type="text"/>	Estimated Cost:	<input type="text"/>
Describe the <b>unique needs</b> of a child or children with disabilities that the remodeling would address: <span style="float: right; color: red;">+</span>			
Describe the remodeling necessary to meet the unique needs of a child or children with disabilities: <span style="float: right; color: red;">+</span>			
<p><a href="#">Section 605 of the IDEA</a> authorizes the use of IDEA funds, including IDEA Part B ARRA funds, for alteration of facilities if the program would be improved by allowing funds to be used for those purposes. Any alteration of facilities must comply with Appendix A to part 36 of title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, the <a href="#">Americans with Disabilities Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities</a>, or Appendix A of subpart 101-19.6, of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations the <a href="#">Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards</a>. (34 CFR §300.718) LEAs also must comply with requirements in 34 CFR Part 76 regarding construction, including the requirements in 34 CFR §§<a href="#">75.600-75.617</a> (page 83) that are incorporated by reference in 34 CFR <a href="#">§76.600</a> (page 121). The general criteria for allowable costs under any Federal award as directed by <a href="#">OMB Circular A-87</a> (2 CFR Part 225) must also be met.</p> <p>Additionally, if a LEA uses IDEA Part B ARRA funds for construction, it must comply with specific requirements relating to the use of American iron, steel and manufactured goods used in the project (<a href="#">ARRA section 1605</a> - page 189), as well as the wage rate provisions of ARRA section <a href="#">1606</a> (page 189). Also, ARRA section <a href="#">1604</a> (page 189) prohibits the use of any ARRA funds, including IDEA Part B ARRA funds, for any casino, or other gambling establishment, aquarium, zoo, golf course, or swimming pool.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I have read and provide assurance that these provisions will be followed. <span style="float: right; color: red;">+</span></p>			

When answers are provided to these required questions, click on the “Add” button to include the record in the IDEA budget. DPI will be able to view the district’s responses to the remodeling questions through the normal budget review process.

## Remodeling Costs – Allowed & Not Allowed

REMODELING: These are alterations to a previously completed building. The remodeling costs must be an excess cost of special education. Therefore, the costs must be associated with remodeling due to the unique needs of a student or students with a disability. Costs must be both necessary and reasonable. Examples of approvable remodeling projects include:

1. Remodeling a bathroom for use by preschool children with disabilities or children with disabilities who have limited mobility.
2. Widening of doorways for wheelchair accessibility.
3. Remodeling part of a facility so it may be used to teach daily living skills.
4. Construction of a ramp to permit access to a facility by a child with a disability.

The following costs are not approvable:

1. Routine maintenance, e.g., painting, re-carpeting, network wiring.
2. Repairs.
3. Building renovations not specifically to meet the needs of children with disabilities. An LEA may not fund part of a remodeling project by charging a proportionate share to IDEA simply because the remodeled facility will also be used by children with disabilities.