

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENTVoucher Certification and Approval

All claims against a school district must be preaudited by the auditing officer of the municipality or his delegate. In addition, all claims must be certified by the auditing officer. This certification may be made on each individual claim voucher or, subject to the acceptance and approval of the board, a blanket voucher certification may be used so long as it indicates the particular vouchers so certified. The use of a blanket certification in no way relieves the auditing officer of his responsibility and liability for each individual voucher so certified. The certification must be signed and dated by the auditing officer or his delegate. For all claims, except expense reimbursement claims certified by officers or employees (see employee travel procedures), the certification must include the following language:

"I, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered or the labor performed as described on voucher numbers _____ through _____ are just, due and unpaid obligation against the school district and that I am authorized to authenticate and certify to said claim."

The auditing officer's certification for employee/officer expense reimbursement claims must include the following language:

"I, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the expense reimbursement claims voucher numbers _____ through _____ are just, due and unpaid obligation against the School District and that I am authorized to certify to said claim."

To indicate board approval for payment of those vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer, the following statement must be entered in the minutes of the governing body:

"Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

"As of this date _____ the board, by a (unanimous, majority) vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the above list and further described as follows: (funds) voucher numbers through in the total amount of \$_____."

Purchasing: Bids and Contracts

The provision for advance payment of vouchers permits a district to make payments in a timely manner and, thus, avoid any late fee or interest charges. The law specifies that the district shall adopt contracting, hiring, purchasing and disbursing policies that implement effective internal control. Policies and procedures for Purchasing: Authorization and Control (7320), Purchasing: Bids and Contracts (7321), Reimbursement for Goods and Services: Warrants (7323), and Payroll Authorization and Control (7330) provide the controls specified in the law.