

Maryland each year in the manner and subject to the limitations hereinafter provided an amount to be known as school building construction aid which shall be calculated as follows:

(1) The State shall share in an expenditure for school construction which shall equal 80 per cent of approved expenditures up to \$1,500 times the number of "pupils housed" in school buildings for which construction contracts have been let [during the current fiscal year] *prior to February 1, 1971*. For 1967-68 only, the product of 50 per cent of the number of kindergarten pupils enrolled as of September 30, 1966, and \$1,500 shall be added to the approved expenditures in making this calculation. *No moneys shall be paid by the State pursuant to this paragraph for school buildings or improvements for which contracts have been executed on or after February 1, 1971.*

(2) The State shall also share in an amount equal to 80 per cent of the principal and interest payments due during the current fiscal year on local debt for school construction to house pupils, as defined in paragraph [(5)] (4) of the subsection, outstanding or obligated as of June 30, 1967, exclusive of any debt obligated for school construction included in the provisions of subparagraph (1) of the subsection. "Local debt for school construction" as used in this paragraph shall include any debt incurred as the result of moneys made available to any political subdivision under any bond issue obligating the credit of the State of Maryland. *Beginning July 1, 1971, the State shall reimburse the counties and Baltimore City for the full costs of principal and interest payments on such debt outstanding or obligated as of June 30, 1967, except in the case of General Public School Construction Loan Debt outstanding or obligated as of June 30, 1967, for which repayment by the subdivisions shall no longer be required.*

(3) The State percentage share shall be the same as that used for the current expense incentive aid as defined in Section 129(2) of this article. This percentage should be applied to the [sum of the] amounts calculated in subparagraph[s] (1) [and (2)] of this subsection to determine the State share.

[(4)] In no event shall the State school building construction aid for any county or Baltimore City for any school year be less than the amount the county or Baltimore City would have received during that year under the provisions of the incentive fund for school construction program in effect in 1966-67.]

[(5)] (4) The State Department of Education shall develop and the State Board of Education shall adopt specific regulations for the administration of the school building construction aid program, including the definition of the term "pupils housed" so as to determine the number of equivalent "pupils housed" in any part of a school construction project. Such definition shall include all pupils in grades 1 to 12 or in special programs for children within the age limit prescribed in the law and 50 per cent of the pupils in kindergartens.

[(6)] (5) The State Superintendent of Schools shall approve for each county and Baltimore City expenditures of funds for school construction under the terms of subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection before including such amounts in the calculation of funds due each county and Baltimore City.