

# Oswegatchie Educational Center Information on COSER Funding

## What is a CoSer (COSER)?

COSER is a service offered through local BOCES districts to help fund or help find services for schools within their district.

A CoSer is a “Cooperative Service” application, which must be filed for every BOCES service and must be approved by the state education department before provided. BOCES is required to file CoSers for any service it offers, regardless of whether the program is aided or not aided.

## How do I apply for CoSer funding to support a trip to Oswegatchie?

1. A teacher makes a request to the school superintendent to bring students to Oswegatchie for an Environmental and Outdoor education program.
2. The superintendent submits a memo to their BOCES superintendent requesting that students from their school attend Oswegatchie Educational Center on \_\_\_\_\_ date at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ per student through a COSER cross contract with Jefferson Lewis BOCES.
3. The BOCES Superintendent will then send a memo to Jefferson Lewis BOCES for approval. Approvals must be complete before the start of the program.

## How does payment work?

1. At the completion of the program Oswegatchie sends a bill to the Jefferson Lewis BOCES.
2. Jefferson Lewis BOCES pays Oswegatchie and forwards a bill to the home school or BOCES affiliate.
3. The home school will then pay the BOCES center for the entire amount of the program.
4. The following year BOCES will reimburse the school at the BOCES aid ratio for that school. This ratio is different for each school but is usually between 60%-90%.

## What programs at Oswegatchie can you use COSER for?

ELP Programs- Environmental Leadership programs, offered in the spring and fall, 2 nights and 3 days of Oswegatchie programming.

Ropes Programs- Use the course for the day or make it an overnight experience during the spring and fall.

Summer Camp- Oswegatchie's week long summer camp program is based on leadership development and environmental education.