

## **Funds lag for kids' terror trauma**

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Scores of students haunted by the terror attacks will have to wait for extra mental-health counseling as the feds and the state dawdle in getting money to city schools.

So far, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has coughed up \$8.9 million of the \$40 million that school officials deem necessary to deal with the emotional fallout from Sept. 11, according to Education Department records.

The Education Department has sent the money it has gotten so far to 10 hot spots - schools below 14th St. and districts where 80 or more students lost family members.

Some 30,000 students are getting extra counseling this school year, according to a Sept. 23 memo to school superintendents.

But a survey released in the spring found that more than 100,000 city students experienced trauma from the terror attacks, with some 60,000 showing signs of major depression.

"FEMA and the state should lock themselves in a room and get this done, today," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan). "It is inexcusable that after over a year that this has not gotten done for New York City's kids."

The delay is a sore point, as FEMA is expected today to announce an \$80 million award giving students at least 15 extra hours of class time - hours lost in the days following the disaster.

City officials said they had expected the mental-health money would be easier to get than the instruction-time funds.