

Ministry of Education

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**2015: B10**

Memorandum To: Directors of Education

From: Gabriel F. Sékaly
Assistant Deputy Minister
Financial Policy and Business Division

Date: May 8, 2015

Subject: In-year amendments to education funding regulations for 2010-11, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years

I am writing to inform you of in-year amendments to the education funding regulations that have been made by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. These amendments make changes to the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding regulations for the 2010-11, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years and are effective immediately.

These amendments primarily effect:

- Entitlement for Consolidated Capital, Capital Priorities/School Consolidation Grants, Full-Day Kindergarten and Capital Priority Land Purchases (2010-11, 2013-14 and 2014-15).
- Full Day Kindergarten Accommodation/Capital Approvals (2014-15)
- Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15)
- High needs Amount (2013-14)

In addition, there are other minor technical amendments that correct language in the existing regulations to ensure the regulations are fully up to date with the existing policy direction.

School Consolidation Capital Projects, Capital Priority Land Purchases, FDK Accommodation/Capital Approvals and Capital Planning Capacity

Amendments to the 2010-11 GSN, 2013-14 GSN and 2014-15 GSN, regulations update Table 27; Table 27.0.1, Section 45, Section 50, Section 52.1, Section 56, Section 57, Table 17.1, Table 24, Table 25.2, Table 26, and Table 25.3 respectively, to reflect previously communicated capital funding approvals.

These amendments reflect previous funding approvals and will enable school boards to begin planning and construction of approved school consolidation capital priorities projects, including building or purchasing schools, building additions, undertaking major retrofits/renovations to existing schools, and/or purchasing land.

School Consolidation Capital

Table 25.2 Capital Priority Projects reflects newly approved school consolidation capital (SCC) projects. The SCC funding is being allocated on a business case basis for new schools, retrofits and additions that support the reduction of excess capacity. The Ministry recently announced \$145 million in allocations to support 25 SCC projects. The next round of SCC funding is expected to begin in the Autumn of 2015.

Capital Planning Capacity

The Capital Planning Capacity (CPC) program was allocated to school boards in the 2014-15 GSN, to support school boards in acquiring additional resources to undertake a range of capital planning-related activities. Program details for the 2014-15 school year were released in February 2015, and these details are available in memorandum 2015 B:03 Capital Planning Capacity program.

In the 2015-16 school year, \$8.3 million will be available to support capital planning capacity in school boards.

Full Day Kindergarten Capital Funding

An amendment to the 2014-15 GSN regulation updates FDK capital funding provided under Table 26 – *Full Day Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten Accommodation Maximum Amount*. This update reflects FDK funding provided for new classrooms and additions under the Full-Day Kindergarten Program.

Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit

Amendments to the 2012-13 GSN, 2013-14 GSN and 2014-15 GSN, regulations update Section 51.1, Table 25.1; Section 51.1, Table 24.1, Section 52.1, Table 5, Table 25.1 and Table 26 respectively, to reflect extension of implementation timelines from August 31, 2015 to August 31, 2017 and to allocate funding for 2014-15 school year.

High needs Amount (2013-14)

An amendment to the 2013-14 GSN regulation updates Table 2 – *High needs Amount*. This technical amendment reflects the changes in the HNA Measures of Variability (MOV) and the HNA Special Education Statistical Predication Model (SESPM) funding amounts in the table as a result of average daily enrolment changes from the time of the projections in March 2013 to final ADE counts for 2013-14.

Strengthening and Improving Government Act

Please be aware that the proposed *Strengthening and Improving Government Act* would amend the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*.

Part of the proposed amendments will help to increase government efficiency where notice requirement for municipal by-laws could result in a school tax exemption by redirecting notification to the Ministry of Finance instead of the Ministry of Education.

These changes reflect that the Ministry of Finance is in charge of monitoring tax base for school purposes. While we are notifying school boards of this change it will have no impact on school boards.

If you require further information about these changes, please contact:

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Original signed by

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C: Superintendents of Business and Finance
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