

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

Capital and Business Support
Division

Division du soutien aux
immobilisations et aux affaires

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2025:B03

Date: August 25, 2025

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
Senior Business Officials
Facility Managers

From: Didem Proulx
Assistant Deputy Minister
Capital and Business Support Division

Subject: 2025-26 School Renewal Funding: Accessibility and Reinforced
Autoclaved Aerated Concrete

As announced earlier this year in [Memorandum 2025: B02](#), for the 2025-26 school year, the government has increased school renewal funding to nearly \$2 billion.

In addition to the continued investment of \$1.4 billion allocated to school boards to renew and improve schools, an additional \$575 million has been allocated to support accessibility improvements and the replacement of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete.

This memorandum provides further information on these two school renewal funding streams.

A. ACCESSIBILITY

The ministry is allocating \$275 million in dedicated funding to support accessibility improvements in schools.

Allocations

All boards are receiving an accessibility allocation. See Appendix A for board allocations.

Recognizing that accessibility requirements in the Building Code have evolved over time, funding has been allocated based on the construction year of school buildings. Allocations have been provided for schools built prior to 2015 and scaled so that older schools (50+ years) are funded at a higher rate.

Cost data, obtained through accessibility surveys completed under the ministry's School Condition Assessment Program, has been leveraged to determine funding level by construction year. Smaller boards are receiving a base allocation to support meaningful accessibility improvements.

Eligible Expenditures

Funding can be used for costs related to projects undertaken between May 15, 2025 and the end of the 2025-26 school year for design, construction, and project management for priority accessibility upgrades under the following categories in schools built prior to 2015:

- Visual Fire Alarms;
- Accessible Washrooms (e.g., grab bars, stalls, automatic faucets) and Universal Washrooms;
- Interior Barrier Free Path of Travel – including communal spaces (including elevators, lifts, ramps, railings, door entrances, removal of transition barriers between rooms, and door operators);
- Exterior Barrier Free Path of Travel (including ramps, handrails, door entrances and operators); and
- Accessible Parking (both type A and B).

Categories align with requirements under the Ontario Building Code and Integrated Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces (Accessibility Standards for the Built Environment).

B. REINFORCED AUTOCLAVED AERATED CONCRETE (RAAC)

The ministry is allocating \$300 million to remove and replace RAAC at approved sites.

As a reminder, to ensure the continued provision of safe and healthy learning environments for students and staff, school boards must continue to maintain an investigation, assessment, and management strategy for RAAC within their buildings.

Allocations

Allocations are being provided for specific approved projects. Projects were prioritized for approval based on detailed information about the condition of RAAC provided by school boards in response to EDU requests. Board allocations for approved projects can be found in Appendix B.

Allocations account for the quantity of RAAC reported by the board for each approved site and the cost of recent projects. Please do not sign any new contracts until a revised cost estimate has been submitted to the ministry for review.

Please note that for approved RAAC projects there will be quarterly reporting requirements to capture project status, costs, and timelines.

Eligible Expenditures

Funding can be used for costs related to approved projects undertaken between May 15, 2025 and the end of the 2025-26 school year for project design, management, construction, and ancillary costs (e.g., abatement). Removal of RAAC in roofs will include replacement costs, as well as addressing structural elements and connected systems that could be disturbed (electrical and HVAC etc.).

C. IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

In support of these time-sensitive initiatives, the ministry will be reaching out to individual school boards to collect the following information to support multi-year planning:

- **Accessibility: Due September 22, 2025**
 - Details associated with the planned use of allocations, and
 - Updated information on accessibility needs in schools.
- **RAAC: Due October 1, 2025**
 - Projects details associated with approved project allocations, and
 - Updated information on the presence and condition of RAAC in board-operated buildings.

For questions related to your workbook and to submit your final workbook, please email: capital.policybranch@ontario.ca

D. FINANCIAL REPORTING

Aligned with School Condition Initiative (SCI) and School Renewal Allocation (SRA) reporting, boards must provide project details such as start and end dates, total projects costs and legal commitments in VFA Facility. For all accessibility projects, boards will need to identify the accessibility category the projects fall under (as identified above under the eligible expenses).

For financial reporting purposes, expenditures will be reported in VFA Facility under the funding codes identified below and will roll into the Education Finance Information System (EFIS):

- SCI RAAC
- SCI ACCESSIBILITY

Projects will need to be closed and archived to successfully transfer to EFIS.

Additionally, please note that the ministry may request further details on reported expenditures. Failure to provide details requested by the ministry could result in withholding of funds.

COMMUNICATIONS

Boards undertaking projects under these programs are required to:

- Continue to follow [existing communication requirements](#), including those related to Ontario Builds signage, as applicable; and
- Continue to publicly post information about renewal projects in a prominent place on their websites.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

The ministry will host information sessions related to this data collection exercise. In addition, VFA Canada will be introducing information sessions to support financial reporting.

Further information regarding the dates and timing of these sessions will follow. These sessions will provide school board staff with support regarding the completion of this request.

MINISTRY CONTACT

If you require additional information, please contact:

Hitesh.Chopra@ontario.ca

Manager, School Renewal

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Director, Capital Policy Branch

We look forward to working with you on advancing this initiative as part of the Ontario government's commitment to meeting the needs of students across the province.

Sincerely,

Didem Proulx
Assistant Deputy Minister
Capital and Business Support Division

APPENDIX A: 2025-26 Accessibility Funding Allocations

ID	School Board Name	Allocations (\$)
1	DSB Ontario North East	2,780,019
2	Algoma DSB	2,673,639
3	Rainbow DSB	2,940,626
4	Near North DSB	1,769,485
5.1	Keewatin-Patricia DSB	1,322,960
5.2	Rainy River DSB	542,603
6.1	Lakehead DSB	1,853,280
6.2	Superior-Greenstone DSB	970,385
7	Bluewater DSB	2,136,759
8	Avon Maitland DSB	3,099,283
9	Greater Essex County DSB	4,481,689
10	Lambton Kent DSB	4,164,088
11	Thames Valley DSB	11,343,064
12	Toronto DSB	47,924,668
13	Durham DSB	7,659,091
14	Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB	4,656,652
15	Trillium Lakelands DSB	2,908,775
16	York Region DSB	11,987,925
17	Simcoe County DSB	5,052,160
18	Upper Grand DSB	3,863,334
19	Peel DSB	15,553,530
20	Halton DSB	6,544,943
21	Hamilton-Wentworth DSB	5,811,583
22	DSB of Niagara	5,643,476
23	Grand Erie DSB	4,250,883
24	Waterloo Region DSB	7,340,966
25	Ottawa-Carleton DSB	10,847,875
26	Upper Canada DSB	4,662,128
27	Limestone DSB	3,067,871
28	Renfrew County DSB	2,002,406
29	Hastings and Prince Edward DSB	2,438,100
30.1	Northeastern Catholic DSB	662,523
30.2	Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic DSB	687,728
31	Huron-Superior Catholic DSB	611,710
32	Sudbury Catholic DSB	1,128,301
33.1	Northwest Catholic DSB	300,000
33.2	Kenora Catholic DSB	300,000
34.1	Thunder Bay Catholic DSB	1,268,187

ID	School Board Name	Allocations (\$)
34.2	Superior North Catholic DSB	382,276
35	Bruce-Grey Catholic DSB	557,565
36	Huron-Perth Catholic DSB	516,471
37	Windsor-Essex Catholic DSB	2,361,706
38	London District Catholic School Board	2,352,696
39	St. Clair Catholic DSB	1,009,822
40	Toronto Catholic DSB	11,173,814
41	Peterborough VNC Catholic DSB	1,618,284
42	York Catholic DSB	5,259,315
43	Dufferin-Peel Catholic DSB	7,745,239
44	Simcoe Muskoka Catholic DSB	2,040,674
45	Durham Catholic DSB	2,020,653
46	Halton Catholic DSB	2,877,120
47	Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB	2,783,005
48	Wellington Catholic DSB	855,350
49	Waterloo Catholic DSB	2,141,849
50	Niagara Catholic DSB	2,641,581
51	Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB	1,162,310
52	Catholic DSB of Eastern Ontario	1,517,723
53	Ottawa Catholic DSB	5,277,675
54	Renfrew County Catholic DSB	850,953
55	Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic DSB	1,356,650
56	CSD du Nord-Est de l'Ontario	391,159
57	CSD du Grand Nord de l'Ontario	1,018,627
58	Conseil scolaire Viamonde	2,356,534
59	CEP de l'Est de l'Ontario	2,077,551
60.1	CSD catholique des Grandes Rivières	2,565,881
60.2	CSD catholique Franco-Nord	702,624
61	CSD catholique du Nouvel-Ontario	1,746,936
62	CSD catholique des Aurores boréales	300,000
63	CSC Providence	1,222,018
64	CSD catholique MonAvenir	1,894,683
65	CSD catholique de l'Est ontarien	2,012,928
66	CSD catholique du Centre-Est de l'Ontario	2,955,633

APPENDIX B: 2025-26 RAAC Removal Funding Allocation

ID	School Board Name	Allocations
9	Greater Essex County District School Board	\$11,261,250
10	Lambton Kent District School Board	\$14,136,854
12	Toronto District School Board	\$8,800,609
13	Durham District School Board	\$1,702,272
14	Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board	\$23,525,159
16	York Region District School Board	\$51,905,568
19	Peel District School Board	\$39,063,024
20	Halton District School Board	\$4,508,824
22	District School Board of Niagara	\$31,220,767
24	Waterloo Region District School Board	\$36,561,096
26	Upper Canada District School Board	\$30,131,930
41	Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB	\$1,937,158
47	Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic DSB	\$21,931,510
48	Wellington Catholic District School Board	\$3,432,000
52	Eastern Ontario Catholic District School Board	\$4,572,248
54	Renfrew County Catholic District School Board	\$2,259,457
58	Conseil scolaire Viamonde	\$1,286,485
61	Conseil scolaire de district catholique du Nouvel-Ontario	\$3,212,352