

PURPOSE

This funding provides additional resources for computer technology in Alberta classrooms to enhance student learning.

CONDITIONS

1. A **school jurisdiction** that receives funding for technology integration must:
 - a) purchase technology according to the guidelines for eligible costs;
 - b) improve the level of access and equity among the **schools**.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A **school jurisdiction** is not required to apply for technology integration funding. Alberta Learning determines funding on the basis of the **frozen funded student count** for September 30, 2000.
2. A **school jurisdiction** must develop and maintain a three-year technology plan. This plan must include a technology equity policy, which addresses equity of access by students to classroom computers. The plan must be available to staff and the public.
3. Jurisdictions must provide funding to all schools on an equitable basis, taking into consideration the learning needs of the students and the unique circumstances of each **school**.
4. A **school jurisdiction's** technology integration initiatives must be consistent with the direction of the Three-Year Education Plan.
5. **School jurisdictions** must maintain records to verify the technology purchased with technology integration funding.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. Technology integration funding is calculated by multiplying the **frozen funded student count** by the technology integration rate. The rates and payment schedules for the next three years are as follows:
 - \$43 per funded student for the 2001/2002 school year, paid June 2000
 - \$44 per funded student for the 2002/2003 school year, to be paid June 2003
 - \$45 per funded student for the 2003/2004 school year, to be paid June 2004.

REVISED

GUIDELINES FOR ELIGIBLE COSTS

1. The following categories of expenditures represent eligible costs:
 - a) computers and computer upgrades that meet minimum identified hardware configurations;
 - b) peripherals (e.g., printers for instructional use, peripherals for special needs students, such as adaptive keyboards, switches and voice recognition equipment);
 - c) CD-ROM towers when used to increase the number of computers with CD-ROM capabilities;
 - d) upgrading of older computers to meet the minimum hardware configurations (e.g., memory, CD-ROM players);
 - e) computers purchased on a lease-to-own agreement. Computers under the lease plan must be purchased or replaced on an “evergreen” basis at the conclusion of the plan with the vendor;
 - f) software for teacher and student use that supports the attainment of the learner outcomes identified by Alberta Learning; and
 - g) networking components within the schools (e.g., hubs, servers, routers, cabling and network cards)

NEW

NOTE: The guidelines for eligible costs have been in effect since April 1997. They have not been changed for the 2001/2002 school year as funding for the school year was disbursed in June 2000. However, these guidelines will be reviewed prior to disbursement of any new Technology Integration Funding for the 2002/2003 school year.

MINIMUM HARDWARE CONFIGURATIONS**NEW**

1. Computers purchased or upgraded using Technology Integration Funding must meet or exceed the minimum hardware configurations:
 - a. Intel Pentium 100, 16 megabytes of RAM, CD-ROM (or networked CD-ROM device); or
 - b. Power Macintosh, 120 MHz or better, 16 megabytes of RAM, CD-ROM (or networked CD-ROM device).

NOTE: The current minimum hardware configurations have been in effect since April 1998. They have not been changed for the 2001/2002 school year as funding for the school year was disbursed in June 2000. However, minimum hardware configurations will be reviewed prior to disbursement of any new Technology Integration Funding for the 2002/2003 school year.