

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

FUNDING MANUAL FOR SCHOOL AUTHORITIES

FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR

The following information outlines the changes to the *2006-2007 Funding Manual for School Authorities* that are significant or noteworthy. Please refer to the appropriate section(s) of the funding manual for more details.

Table of Contents

- A new part has been added: Part 7 – Capital.
- Four new sections have been added: Section 1.30 Plant Operations and Maintenance; Section 1.31 Fuel Price Contingency; Section 7.1 School Facilities; and, Section 7.2 Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR).

Introduction

- Page 1: An Allocation Description has been added to each section in Part 1 to explain why the funding is provided, while still allowing for maximum flexibility.

Part 1: Renewed Funding Framework for School Jurisdictions

- Page 2: A new limitation has been added for the Capital sections describing that this funding can only be used for capital needs.
- Pages 3 – 7: Changes have been made to reflect the revisions to the Accountability Pillar.

Section 1.1 – ECS Base Instruction Funding

- Page 1: Allocation criteria #1 has been revised to indicate that Family-Oriented Programming is only for children with severe special needs.

Section 1.2 – Base Instruction Funding

- Page 6: Allocation criteria 9(l) has been revised to reflect that Knowledge and Employability (K&E) courses have replaced Integrated Occupational (IO) courses and are funded at 8/5 times the CEU value.
- Page 7: Allocation criteria 9(q) is new and reflects that 35 CEUs of funding will be provided for eligible high school refugee students.

Section 1.3 – Outreach Base Funding

- Page 1: Requirement #1 indicates that applications for new Outreach programs must be submitted by March 31.

Section 1.4 – Home Education Funding

- Wording throughout this section has been revised to improve clarity.

Section 1.6 – Program Unit Funding (PUF)

- Page 3: Requirement #1 indicates that the deadline for the submission of PUF applications has been changed to December 22, 2006.
- Page 4: Requirement #3 indicates that for PUF children who are identified or enrolled after the PUF application submission date, school jurisdictions have until April 1 to add any new children to the original application.

Section 1.7 – Severe Disabilities Profile Funding

- Page 1: Allocation criteria #2 has been revised to indicate that charter schools claim Severe Disabilities Funding under Section 3.3 rather than under Section 1.7 as charter schools are not funded on a profile basis.

Section 1.8 – English as a Second Language Funding

- Page 2: Allocation criteria #5 has been revised to show that the 5 year funding cap is under review pending further analysis.

Section 1.15 – Small Board Administration Funding

- Page 1: The allocation formula has been revised to show that funding is provided for each charter school site up to a maximum of four sites.

Section 1.21 – Special Transportation Funding

- Page 3: Allocation criteria #8(a) indicates that Transportation Funding for Family – Oriented Programming sessions is provided only for children with a severe disability/delay.

Section 1.24 – Stabilization Funding

- Page 2: In allocation criteria #4, the example has been simplified to improve clarity in understanding the calculation of this funding.

Section 1.30 – Plant Operations and Maintenance Funding

- The responsibility for this funding has been transferred from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to Alberta Education. This funding is provided for the maintenance and operation of schools to ensure they are a safe, clean and comfortable environment for students. The formula for this funding will be reviewed for the 2007-2008 school year.

Section 1.31 – Fuel Price Contingency Funding

- This new funding, in addition to other Transportation Funding, is provided to address the high cost of diesel fuel for school buses.

Part 2: Funding for Private ECS Operators

Section 2.1 – ECS Base Instruction

- Page 1: Condition #1 has been revised to indicate that Family-Oriented Programming is only for children with severe special needs.

Section 2.3 – Program Unit Funding (PUF)

- Page 2: Requirement #1 indicates that the deadline for the submission of PUF applications has been changed to December 22, 2006.
- Page 3: Requirement #3 indicates that for PUF children who are identified or enrolled after the PUF application submission date, the private ECS operator has until April 1 to add any new children to the original application.

Section 2.5 – ECS Special Transportation

- Page 1: Condition 2(a) indicates that Transportation Funding for Family –Oriented Programming sessions is provided only for children with a severe disability/delay.

Part 3: Funding for Accredited-Funded Private Schools

Section 3.1 – Base Instruction Funding

- Page 5: Condition 9(l) has been revised to reflect that Knowledge and Employability (K&E) courses have replaced Integrated Occupational (IO) courses and are funded at 8/5 times the CEU value.
- Page 5: condition 9(q) is new and reflects that 35 CEUs of funding is provided for eligible high school refugee students.

Section 3.4 – Home Education Funding

- Wording in this section has been revised to improve clarity.

Part 5: Targeted Funding for Provincial Priorities

Section 5.3 – SuperNet Service Funding

- The name of this section was changed to prevent confusion and improve clarity.

Section 5.4 – Small Class Size Initiative Funding

- This section has been revised to reflect that funding is provided to meet the class size average guidelines recommended by the Alberta Commission on Learning.

Part 7: Capital

Section 7.1 – School Facilities Funding

- This is a new section. Responsibility for this funding has transferred from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to Alberta Education. This funding for school jurisdictions is for the preservation of a current school facility or for the construction of a new school facility as approved by Alberta Education.

Section 7.2 – Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) Funding

- This is a new section. Responsibility for this funding has transferred from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to Alberta Education. This funding is provided to upgrade or replace building components that have failed or may pose problems. Repairs may be necessary to meet health and safety requirements, to extend the useful life of a school facility, and to maintain the quality of the school environment. The formula for this funding is currently under review.

Part 8: Payments to School Authorities

Sections 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3 – Funding Rates

- The funding rates have been revised to reflect the funding increases in the Budget 2006 announcement, the June 29, 2006 announcement of Transportation Funding increases and the July 11, 2006 announcement of additional funding increases. The Base Instruction rates are increased by 4%, Transportation Funding rates are increased by 5.7%, the Severe Disabilities Profile numbers are increased by 4% and all other funding rates are increased by 2%.

Section 8.5 – Payment Schedule for Private ECS Operators

- The last PUF payment of the school year has been changed from May to June to better match the timing of the PUF application approval process.

Glossary of Terms

- A new definition has been added to the Glossary for a High School Refugee Student.
- The name of the definition for Supervising Board has been changed to Associate Board according to terminology used in the new Home Education Regulation.