**Special Education Grant**

The Special Education Grant provides additional funding for students who need special education programs, services, and/or equipment.

The Special Education Grant is made up of six allocations:

* Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA) Allocation - $1.478 billion,
* Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA) Allocation - $1.065 billion,
* Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Allocation - $102.4 million,
* Special Incidence Portion (SIP) Allocation - $98.2 million,
* Facilities Amount (FA) Allocation - $99.7 million, and
* Behaviour Expertise Amount (BEA) Allocation - $11.9 million.

The Special Education Grant may only be used for special education. Any unspent funding must be treated as deferred revenue for special education.

The Special Education Grant is projected to be approximately $2.856 billion in 2017-18.

**Special Education Per-Pupil Amount (SEPPA) Allocation**

The Special Education Per-Pupil Amount (SEPPA) Allocation recognizes the cost of providing additional assistance to the majority of students with special education needs. SEPPA is allocated to boards on the basis of total enrolment.

The amounts for 2017-18 are:

$975.77 per JK to Grade 3 student, $749.52 per Grade 4 to 8 student, and $494.90 per Grade 9 to 12 student.

The SEPPA Allocation is projected to be approximately $1.478 billion in 2017-18.

 **Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA) Allocation**

The DSENA Allocation addresses the variation among boards with respect to students with special education needs and boards' abilities to respond to those needs.

In 2017-18, the DSENA Allocation is made up of:

* the Measures of Variability (MOV) Amount – $269.4 million, and
* the Special Education Statistical Prediction Model (SESPM) amount – $763.2 million, and
* the Base Amount for Collaboration and Integration amount – $32.4 million.

The DSENA Allocation is projected to be $1.065 billion for 2017–18.

2017-18 is also the final year of a four-year phase in of a new funding model for the Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount Allocation, and other adjustments. More information regarding the DSENA allocation methodologies will be provided to school boards in a memorandum from the Director, Special Education Policy and Programs Branch.

 **Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Allocation**

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The 2017-18 SEA Allocation is made up of two components:

* SEA Per-Pupil Amount, including a $10,000 base amount for each board, and
* SEA Claims-Based Amount.

The SEA Allocation\* is projected to be $102.4 million in 2017-18.

**SEA Per-Pupil Amount**

In 2017-18, each school board will receive a projected SEA Per-Pupil Amount component, which includes a base amount of $10,000 for each school board plus an amount based on the board’s ADE. The SEA Per-Pupil Amount is allocated for the purchase of all computers, software, computing-related devices, and required supporting furniture, as identified for use by students with special education needs in accordance with the SEA funding guidelines.

In addition, the SEA Per-Pupil Amount helps school boards in providing training for staff and students (where applicable), equipment set-up, maintenance, and repair as determined by the board for all SEA equipment, including SEA equipment funded through the SEA claims-based process. Technicians and training costs are no longer submitted through the SEA claims process.
 **SEA Claims-Based Amount**

The SEA Claims-Based Amount provides funding to school boards for the purchases of other non-computer based equipment to be utilized by students with special education needs, including sensory equipment, hearing support equipment, vision support equipment, personal care support equipment, and physical assists support equipment, through a claims-based process with an $800 deductible. Eligibility requirements for SEA are outlined in the *Special Education Funding Guidelines: Special Equipment Amount (SEA), 2017-18, Spring 2017†*.

**SEA Allocation and Financial Reporting by Boards**

Boards will develop an internal process that allocates the SEA Per-Pupil Amount, the SEA Claims-Based Amount, and the board internal contribution to support student needs, in an equitable and timely fashion.

Similar to previous years, the SEA Per-Pupil Amount will be reported separately from all other special education expenditures. Unused SEA Per-Pupil Amount funding (including the $10,000 base) must be treated as SEA Per-Pupil Amount deferred revenue to support future purchases of computers, software, and computer-related devices and required supporting furniture identified for use by students with special education needs, as well as all training and technician costs for all SEA equipment.

Portability requirements for equipment purchased with the SEA funding would be outlined in the *Grants for Student Needs* – *Legislative Grants for the 2017-2018 School Board Fiscal Year* regulation and described in the *Special Education Funding Guidelines: Special Equipment Amount (SEA), 2017-18, Spring 2017\**.

Each board’s Special Equipment Amount Allocation would be set out in the *Grants for Student Needs* – *Legislative Grants for the 2017-2018 School Board Fiscal Year* regulation.

† This document is available on the Ministry of Education website.

 **Special Incidence Portion (SIP) Allocation**

The SIP Allocation supports pupils who require more than two full-time staff to address the health and safety needs of both the students who have extraordinarily high needs related to their disabilities and/or exceptionalities and others at their school. Eligibility criteria for SIP are outlined in the *Special Education Funding Guidelines: Special Incidence Portion (SIP), 2017*–*18, Spring 2017*. SIP claims are submitted to the Ministry of Education regional offices for approval.

The SIP Allocation is projected to be $98.2 million in 2017-18.

 **Facilities Amount (FA) Allocation**

The FA Allocation provides funding to school boards to provide education programs for school-aged children and youth in care and/or treatment centres, and in custody and correctional facilities. These facilities include hospitals, children's mental health centres, psychiatric institutions, detention and correctional facilities, community group homes, and social services agencies. The provision of education in these facilities is subject to the Memorandum of Understanding, a formal agreement between a district school board and the facility. Guidelines providing direction to boards on the approval and funding of these programs are updated annually. Further details can be found in the Guidelines for Approval and Provision of Care and/or Treatment, Custody and Correctional (CTCC) Programs 2017-18. New programs wereapproved in 2013-14 and again in 2015-16. The Ministry is currently assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of these programs to inform future program delivery of all programs. Further details can be found in the *Guidelines For Educational Programs for Students In Government Approved Care and/or Treatment, Custody and Correctional (CTCC) Facilities 2017-18*.

The FA Allocation is projected to be $99.7 million in 2017-18.

Funding for the FA Allocation is based on an approval process specified in the guideline issued for these programs. The recognized costs include teachers, education assistants and classroom supplies.

Revenue is reduced when the projected amount approved and paid to a school board is greater than the actual final expenditure incurred.

Funding is provided to school boards to help offset the accommodation costs of classrooms in care and/or treatment, and custody settings that operate in school board space. This funding is included in the School Operations Allocation. School boards may fund the transportation they have authority to provide with their Student Transportation Grant.

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**Behaviour Expertise Amount (BEA) Allocation**

The BEA Allocation provides funding for school boards to hire board-level Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) expertise professionals. The use of ABA instructional approaches has proven to be effective for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other students with special education needs. ABA expertise professionals will support principals, teachers, educators and other school staff by providing and coordinating ABA coaching, training and resources; facilitating collaboration among community service providers, parents and schools; and supporting the *Connections for Students* model transitioning students with ASD from Intensive Behaviour Intervention services provided through the Ministry of Children and Youth Services into ABA instructional methods in school.

ABA expertise professionals will also increase school board capacity in use of ABA methods and enhance their compliance with PPM 140, Incorporating Methods of Applied Behaviour Analysis into Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

The BEA Allocation is projected to be $11.9 million in 2017-18.

The Ministry will allocate funding based on the following formula:$ 86,397 per school board + ($2.90 x ADE)

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