

**LDAO SEAC CIRCULAR**

**April 2023**

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) SEAC Circular is published 5 times a year, usually in September, November, February, April and June.

The following are some topics that your SEAC should be looking at. Action items and/or recommendations for effective practices will be underlined.

Feel free to share any of this information or the attachments with other SEAC members. As always, when you are planning to introduce a motion for the consideration of SEAC, it is particularly important that you share all related background items with your fellow SEAC reps.

 **Topics covered by this SEAC Circular:**

1. Ministry of Education Updates

2. Education funding and budget setting for 2023-24

**List of Supplementary Materials:**

1. PAAC on SEAC Resource Guide on Special Education Funding

2. PAAC on SEAC Special Education Funding Tip Sheet

3. Special Education Grant (Technical Paper excerpts)

4. Priorities and Partnerships Funding excerpts

**Note:** You can access the SEAC Circular and supplementary materials at
[www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/](http://www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/).

You can access Ministry funding (B & SB) memos by date at: <https://efis.fma.csc.gov.on.ca/faab/Memos.htm>

**1. Ministry of Education Updates**

An April 17, 2023 **Better Outcomes for Students Memo** outlines Ministry of Education investments for 2022-23 in a number of key areas:

• Early Reading • Math • De-streaming • Job-readiness • Mental Health • Human Rights and Inclusion • Special Education • Student Safety• Student Transportation • Capital • Remote Learning Administration.

 A link to the memo in PDF can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/education-funding-2023-24>. **Note** that the funding for these initiatives comes from various funding envelopes, which are not indicated in the memo.

**2. Education funding and budget setting for 2023-24**

Now that the Ministry of Education has released its funding projections for 2023-24, SEACs can pursue their mandated role under Regulation 464/97 to:

 “participate in the board’s annual budget process under section 231 of the Act, as that process relates to special education.” (Section 12 (2))” and

“review the financial statements of the board, prepared under section 252 of the Act, as those statements relate to special education.” (Section 12 (3))”

SEACs should ask for a presentation on their school board’s budget planning process. An effective practice is to have a SEAC subcommittee devoted to the Special Education budget.

PAAC on SEAC has prepared two documents for SEAC members to help them understand the complexity of funding for Special Education.

Attached are the in-depth [**PAAC on SEAC Resource Guide on Special Education Funding 2022**](https://www.paac-seac.ca/resources/paac-on-seac-funding-resource-guide-2022/) that gives detailed descriptions of the various aspects of special education funding, and the new, updated [**PAAC on SEAC Special Education Funding Tip Sheet**](https://www.paac-seac.ca/wp-content/uploads/PAAC-on-SEAC-Tip-Sheet-key-messages-Special-Education-Funding-2023.docx) which gives key messages to help SEAC members as they review their school boards’ special education budgets.

Links to Ministry of Education funding memos and other funding documents for 2023-24 can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/education-funding-2023-24>.

These include the [Technical Paper](https://files.ontario.ca/edu_6/edu-2023-24-technical-paper-en-2023-04-12.pdf),with the most details about funding, the [Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF)](https://efis.fma.csc.gov.on.ca/faab/Memos/B2023/B05_EN.pdf) memo and the [Special education funding guidelines: Special Equipment Amount (SEA), 2023–24](https://files.ontario.ca/edu-2324-sea-guidelines-en-2023-04-12.pdf), which addresses the processes for funding equipment such as assistive technology.

The [2023–24 Education funding: a guide to the Special Education Grant](https://www.ontario.ca/page/2023-24-education-funding-guide-special-education-grant)can be a good resource for sharing with parents as well as an introduction for new SEAC members.

To help SEAC members find the most relevant information from two of the PDF documents on the Ministry of Education website, I have created **Word documents** with excerpts from the *Education Funding Technical Paper* and from the *Priorities and Partnerships Funding memo.*

**Note** that theitems listed under *Special Education* in the *Priorities and Partnership Funding* (PPF) are distinct from, and not included in, the *Special Education Grant*, which is part of the *Grants for Student Needs* (GSN)

**Questions?** Email Diane Wagner at dianew@LDAO.ca