



Education, Citizenship and Youth

Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch
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February 2006

To: Superintendents of Education
Chairs of School Boards
Secretary Treasurers
Student Services Administrators
Principals of Schools (Kindergarten to Senior 4)

Dear Colleagues:

Re: *Guidelines for the English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support Grant (2006-2007)*

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information about the English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support Grant, announced by the Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth on January 26, 2006.

Before reviewing the details below on changes and enhancements to funding for EAL, please note that Manitoba is implementing a change from using the term English as a second language (ESL) to English as an additional language (EAL). This change reflects the fact that EAL learners may already be fluent in other languages.

English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support Grant

As a result of increased funding for EAL, an additional \$1.7 million will be available to Manitoba school divisions for the 2006-2007 school year. The restructuring of the EAL Support Grant extends eligibility to four years and increases funding available in a student's first year of EAL programming. Previously, students in Grades 1 to 8 were eligible for only two years of funding, and students in Senior Years were eligible for three years of funding.

EAL support is available for pupils with limited proficiency in the English language who are receiving EAL curriculum, instruction, and related services on September 30, 2006. Funding will be provided for a maximum of four consecutive years.

Support rates per eligible FTE* pupil receiving EAL support are as follows:

Year 1 of EAL Programming	Year 2 of EAL Programming	Year 3 of EAL Programming	Year 4 of EAL Programming
\$775	\$750	\$750	\$600

* FTE—full-time equivalent

Strengthening EAL Programming and Services

New *Guidelines for the English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support Grant (2006-2007)* (attached) provide direction for the planning and implementation of EAL programming and services. It is important that school divisions and schools review their current EAL policies, programming, and services as an initial step in EAL planning. Key areas to address include:

- documenting and implementing divisional and school EAL policies, protocols, and procedures for the effective identification, assessment, and ongoing monitoring of EAL learners
- ensuring that EAL Support Grant resources are directed towards appropriate EAL programming and supports for learners at different stages of EAL development

To assist school divisions and schools in implementing the new guidelines and other EAL initiatives, the Department will offer professional learning opportunities in the 2006-2007 school year. In addition, divisional consultations and visits are planned to allow for gathering of information, identification of successes, and tracking of local developments in EAL programming and initiatives.

The *Guidelines* regarding the EAL Support Grant are available on the Department's website at: <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/cur/diversity/eal/>.

For additional programming information, please contact:

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I hope that you find *Guidelines for the English as an Additional Language (EAL) Support Grant (2006-2007)* a useful resource. I welcome your comments and invite you to complete the attached feedback form. Please fax it to my attention at (204) 945-5060.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Cooley
Acting Director
Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch

Attachments

- c. Tony Tavares, Consultant, Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch
Manitoba Association of Parent Councils
Manitoba Association of School Business Officials
Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
Manitoba Association of School Trustees
Manitoba Teachers' Society
Teachers of English as a Second Language (TESL) in Manitoba