

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

Field Services Branch

Direction des services régionaux

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Date: July 12, 2021

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
English-Language District School Boards

From: Melanie Milczynski
Director
Field Services Branch

Subject: Information for French as a Second Language Planning and Implementation

I am pleased to provide you with information to support 2021-22 school year planning with respect to French as Second language education. This is a summary memo with respect to: FSL funding, the deferred submission of a three-year FSL plan and a new FSL Board Interface Tool. Corresponding attachments contain more detailed information.

1. 2021-22 FSL Allocations to School Boards

For the 2021-22 school year, a total of \$7.9 million in funding is available for school board FSL activities pursuant to the Canada-Ontario Agreement on Minority-Language Education and Second Official-Language Instruction. This funding is intended to support boards to increase student confidence, proficiency, and achievement in FSL, as well as increase the percentage of students studying FSL until graduation.

As in past years, the funding supports board activities under two areas of intervention in the Canada-Ontario Agreement:

- Support for Educational Staff (i.e. Common European Framework of Reference-focused and learning that supports all aspects of FSL teaching)
- Enriched Learning Environments (i.e. meaningful activities for students in all FSL programs).

Funding will also cover board-developed FSL initiatives of a board's choice from one or more of these four options to improve student outcomes:

- Homework support for students in FSL
- French extended learning experiences for students in FSL
- Classroom resources for French Immersion classes and FSL courses
- Research relating to the retention and recruitment of FSL teachers

In addition, the funding can cover costs associated with a board's administration of the Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELFF) for students enrolled in Grade 12 FSL courses. Participating school boards will receive \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$15,000 based on the level of student participation. For DELFF specifically, 2018-19 (pre-pandemic) student participation is used because in 2019-20 DELFF spring exams were cancelled in keeping with the DELFF operator (France Education International) prescription of exclusively in-person exams. Other FSL funding supports mentioned further above use a board's 2019-20 FSL enrolment.

This targeted allocation of \$7.9 million is in addition to FSL funding through the GSN (i.e. the Language Grant allocation) and is not intended to be used for activities covered by the GSN. This funding applies to expenditures during the 2021-22 school year (i.e. September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022).

Transfer payment agreements will be provided to boards in Fall 2021. For planning purposes, additional information is attached for eligible activities/expenditures (Appendix 1) and individual board allocations (Appendix 2).

2. School Board Three-year FSL Plans

In [A Framework for French as a Second Language in Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12](#), the schedule for the cyclical submission of a three-year FSL plan would normally have entailed that boards submit plans during the 2020-21 school year. In recognition of the demands on schools and boards as a result of COVID-19 this year, we have adjusted the schedule. The final FSL three-year plan will instead cover the period of 2021-22 to 2023-24 and the new date for submission is December 3, 2021. A template for a three-year FSL plan is attached (Appendix 3).

3. FSL Board Interface Tool

We appreciate school board interest in using data to inform planning and implementation of FSL programs. To complement data held locally, the ministry makes FSL data available to board staff through a FSL Board Interface Tool in the enhanced Education Information Centre (<https://ontariogov.sharepoint.com/sites/EIC>). This FSL tool provides information related to student participation by various FSL program filters and includes province/region/board/school-level comparisons. To initiate access to the FSL Board Interface Tool, a message with the name and email address of any approved users should be sent to EIC.Support@ontario.ca by the board MISA Leader or Director of Education (or designate).

In closing, I would like to reiterate sincere thanks and appreciation for your on-going commitment to supporting success in FSL education for all students.

Original signed by

Melanie Milczynski

Attachments