



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

SPECIAL EDUCATION
FUNDING

AN INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR PARENTS
AND
COMMUNITY PROFESSIONALS

Funding specifically in the area of Special Education is provided by two grants. The Special Education per pupil Amount known as S.E.P.P.A. and the Intensive Support Amount referred to as I.S.A.

Every student enrolled regardless of their educational needs generates SEPPA dollars. Student who meet the requirements of specific profiles generate I.S.A. dollars. Boards use the combined SEPPA and ISA dollars in providing services and programs for all their students in Special Education. This would include professional support staff such as Speech/Language Pathologists, Child and Youth Workers, Social Workers, Special Education Teachers, Educational Assistants, Educational Consultants, Psychologists as well as program materials and equipment.

In the I.S.A funding there are four different levels for funding as well as a Special Incident Portion known as S.I.P. More detailed information is available in the Ministry of Education and Training Resource Manual for Special Education Grants Intensive Support (ISA). More detailed information is available. This is available on the Ministry website or your local school.

I.S.A. Level 1

Provides funds for special equipment needs on behalf of individual students. I.S.A. Level 1 functions as an additional layer for equipment. The equipment must be essential for the student in order to benefit from instruction. For example: FM system for students who are hearing impaired.

I.S.A. Levels 2 and 3

Provides funds to boards on the basis of the number of students with high needs for specialized programs and services, which are typically very costly to support.

I.S.A. Level 4

Provides funds for educational programs offered to students admitted to care, treatment, or correctional facilities. Students in these programs are not included in the claim process for ISA level 2 and level 3 because they are not on a school register.

SIP

Special Incident Portion is provided on behalf of students with extraordinarily high needs for staff support to ensure safety in the classroom. A student

eligible for SIP will typically be eligible for ISA level 3 as well, though in the 2000-01 this is not a criterion of eligibility.

How does the board identify those students who generate funds through ISA 2 and ISA 3 grants?

The student must:

- ❖ Be enrolled
- ❖ Have an assessment that demonstrates moderate to severe (ISA level 2) or severe to profound (ISA level 3) physical behaviour, communication, cognitive, or learning disability disorder; and
- ❖ Require intensive individualized support, supervision and direction because the student is unable to work independently to complete required tasks; and
- ❖ Require intensive individualized assistance to benefit from instruction or to ensure the health and safety of self or others; and
- ❖ Require an individualized intervention or protection in order to attend, process, communicate or cope; and
- ❖ Have an IEP which outlines in detail the extensive accommodations or modifications to the expectations of the provincial curriculum; and
- ❖ Require an individualized and uniquely designed program at the level of support requested (except for claims under Profile 9); and
- ❖ Match one of the student profiles provided by the Ministry of Education and training

What happens to the funding if a student moves from one school board to another?

Students who are eligible for ISA Level 1, 2 and 3 supports in one school board maintain their eligibility when they change schools or boards. A mechanism for portability is outlined by the Ministry of Education and Training.

What are some of the changes to the student-focused approach to funding in Special Education in the 2000-2001 school year?

The Ministry still supports providing a two-part grant SEPPA and ISA to allow for fair funding across the province.

Boards must spend their total Special Education Funding in the area of Special Education programs and services.

Starting in the year 2000-2001, Intensive support Allocation dollars (ISA 2 and ISA 3) are not directly attached to students. Boards are able to spend combined SEPPA and ISA dollars in providing services and programs for all their students in Special Education.

This pamphlet was designed to provide an overview in the area of Special Education funding. For more detailed information please contact the Special Education office of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board at 1-866-336-6139 (Ext. 258 or Ext. 388).