

Equipment

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SPECIAL EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY TEAM (SETT)

SETT membership includes staff from each department physical management, speech and language, psychology, behaviour, hearing, vision, and special education.

MANDATE OF SETT:

- To research innovative technology for students with exceptional needs
- To increase students access to the curriculum through the use of technology
- To pilot technology in selected schools and make recommendations to the Special Education Technology Steering Committee.

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AMOUNT CLAIMS PROCESS

Other substantive needs are pursued through the Special Equipment Amount (SEA) process as outlined in annual Ministry guidelines.

SEA equipment funding is for special, individualized equipment for use at school. The equipment must be necessary for the student to access and/or demonstrate his/her knowledge of the curriculum or modified program. The equipment may be necessary to allow the child to attend school.

a) SEA Per Pupil Amount (PPA):

The Ministry allocates a specific amount of SEA PPA funding to each school board annually. All computer and related equipment is to be purchased from this fund. No deductible applies.

Examples of SEA PPA equipment are:

- Computer hardware
- Computer software
- Adjustable computer tables
- Communication Aids
- Portable computing devices
- Alternate user interfaces (keyboards, mice, switches)

b) SEA Claims:

A SEA Claim can be put forward for any student who requires personalized non-computer equipment to attend school and access his/her curriculum/modified program when the cost of the equipment exceeds \$800.00 for the school year.

Examples of SEA Claim equipment are:

- Positioning devices for sitting, standing or lying
- Individually modified desks or work tables
- FM systems
- Amplification systems
- Print enlargers for students with low vision
- Braille writers

Each SEA PPA expenditure and SEA Claim must be documented by:

1. An assessment on file provided by an appropriately qualified professional (occupational therapist, deaf and heard of hearing special education consultant, special programs teachers, vision, and speech language pathologist) or addendum to the existing psychological assessment noting the equipment required (psychologist).
2. A copy of the invoice(s) or proof of cost of equipment to be purchased and
3. A signed copy of the current Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Equipment purchased for the student with SEA funds is portable, and moves with the student from school to school, or publically-funded board to publically-funded board, within the province of Ontario. When the student graduates from high school, or leaves a publically-funded board in Ontario, the equipment becomes the property of the school board that the student was most recently attending, to be reallocated to another student who requires it to access the curriculum.

The assessment, student's current IEP, and the equipment quote(s) are available for the Ministry to review at the end of each fiscal year, and stored securely at the school board until the student turns 21 years of age.