



What do you need to know about Federal funding?

Do you know how much your SD receives annual in Federal funding for French programs (Core French and Immersion)?

All Federal Funds received by school districts (SD) must be spent entirely in support of French Immersion Programs or Core French courses. The ministry could reclaim any portion of the grant not used for this purpose. This funding is also given to English SDs in Québec for English as minority language learning.

To find out how much your SD receives visit: [http://bit.ly/French Federal Funds](http://bit.ly/French_Federal_Funds)

Do you know that the funding is based on FTE enrolment in Core French? The Core French funding represents 16% of the total school district funding envelope under the current BC Action Plan. The purpose of this grant is to provide supplemental funding needed to deliver the Core French programs in participating school districts where the minimum instructional time of 5% is met. Except for items otherwise covered under the guidelines of this guide, all districts expenses in direct support of this initiative, including any allowable salary expense under this guide, are eligible. SDs offering Core French courses will receive \$8 per student plus an additional amount equal to their base funding times their rural factor (RF). School districts will be expected to report on the type, quantity and cost of expenses incurred in this category.

Did you know that both programs have funds for the promotion of French culture in the schools? This grant represents 2% of the total SD funding envelope under the current BC Action Plan. The purpose of this grant is to assist districts in providing opportunities for students to be exposed to Francophone culture, by sponsoring various French cultural activities that could include visiting musicians/authors or children's theatre groups, field trips or special "days".

Core French:

1-1,000 students \$450

1,000 students or more \$900

Did you know that Core French teachers have access to PD funds from this federal funding to be used in addition to local PD funding? The Teacher Professional Development funding represents 5% of the total SD funding envelope under the current BC Action Plan. The purpose of this grant is to support teachers' participation in activities such as in-service/program implementation for Core French and French Immersion programs which may be offered to individual or groups of teachers, and may include workshops, on-line learning, conference attendance and post-secondary courses. SDs with more than 10 students will receive \$4,500 for the first 2,570 students and an additional \$1.5 per student beyond that threshold. The Teacher Professional Development funding represents 5% of the total school district funding envelope under the current BC Action Plan. Is this funding being spent by Core French teachers for their PD?

Did you know that your SD must report expenditures on an annual basis? SDs are required to keep an accounting of all expenditures of federal funds for French as a second language and report on these expenditures at the end of the school year. Auditing and monitoring of these funds should be expected as an integral part of the Ministry of Education's funding process. A Financial Report / Evaluation Form (FP01-SD) must be submitted no later than July 31, at the end of each school year. The most updated version of this form must be made available for download no later than June 1st of every year through the Ministry of Education's website. To see your SD's 2012-13 report, go to: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=93CFAF469DE445BDAD90A139705AD525>. To see the 2013-14 and 2014-15 reports, ask your school board. You and your local have a right to see and to ask questions about this report.

Do you have a French language programs coordinator / helping teacher / language consultant in your district? Is this person French as a First or Working Language (FFWL) BCTF member? SDs may apply up to 20% of their total federal contribution to the maximum of a 0.4 full-time equivalent (FTE) position, for French as a second language teacher's salary or at the district level for a coordinator position responsible for French as a second language programs. The BCTF EC adopted an Advisory Committee on French Programs and Service recommendation that this position be held by a BCTF member instead of by an administrator.

Do you know who is responsible for French programs in your district? Is it a teacher or an administrator? How often do you receive communication?

Do you have a French Advisory Committee in your local? Locals are encouraged to form a French Advisory Committee with representatives from the various stakeholders, i.e. trustees, administrators, parents and teachers. Many of the questions asked above can be verified by the advisory committee. Where established, best practice suggests that allocation of funds be discussed by the committee. The CPF-BC/Yukon chapter has created a template to help teachers create such a committee.

For more information, contact Lucie Ferrari, Assistant Director, French Programs and Services PSID: lferrari@bctf.ca

Note: Marie-Claude Tremblay (mctremblay@bctf.ca) is replacing Lucie Ferrari until February 2017.