



SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICT PROGRAM

Presentation By:
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Agenda

- OPSC Introduction
- Small School District Program
- Modernization and New Construction Overview
- Email Subscription List
- Points of Contact

OPSC Overview

- Under the authority of the Department of General Services
- Staff to the State Allocation Board
- Implements/administers \$54.5 billion program for school facilities construction
- Facilitates processing and funding of school facility construction grant applications (i.e., New Construction and Modernization)

Small School District Program

What is the Small School District Program?

- Established in 2024 by Proposition 2
 - \$400 million for Modernization projects
 - \$330 million for New Construction projects
- Public School Districts or County Offices of Education with 2,500 pupils or fewer* may participate
- Preliminary Small School District Program (Program) Apportionments reserve bond authority for up to four years
 - Potential single one-year extension subject to State Allocation Board (SAB) approval

**see School Facility Program (SFP) Regulation Section 1859.2 definition of “Small School District”.*

What is the Small School District Program? (cont.)

- Program Opening Dates
 - Modernization Applications – November 2, 2026
 - New Construction Applications – January 15, 2027
- Applications processed in date order received
- Lottery system for applications received on same date that exceed available bond authority

Modernization and New Construction Overview

Modernization

- Extends the useful life of existing facilities or enhances the physical environment of a school
- Can be used for a current project or to reimburse completed project
- Funding can be used to demolish/replace existing square footage

Modernization Eligibility Requirements

- *Eligibility Determination* (Form SAB 50-03) to establish/update Modernization eligibility
- Site specific eligibility
- Determined by:
 - Permanent buildings must be at least 25 years old
 - Portable buildings must be at least 20 years old
 - Based on classroom count or square footage
 - Enrollment
 - Permanent buildings 50 years old or older may receive additional funding
 - Once established, eligibility is not required to be updated

Modernization Eligibility Requirements Form SAB 50-03

Part III – Modernization Eligibility Determination NEW ADJUSTED

1. School Name _____					
Option A	K-6	7-8	9-12	Non-Severe	Severe
2. Permanent classrooms at least 25 years old*					
3. Portable classrooms at least 20 years old*					
4. Total (Lines 2 and 3)	0	0	0	0	0
5. Multiply Line 4 by: 25 for K-6, 27 for 7-8 and 9-12, 13 for Non-Severe and 9 for Severe	0	0	0	0	0
6. Enter enrollment year (yy/yy) _____ and CBEDS enrollment at school site					
7. Modernization Eligibility (lesser of each column of Lines 5 or 6)	0	0	0	0	0

Option B						
2. Permanent space at least 25 years old* (report by classroom or square footage)						
3. Portable space at least 20 years old *						
4. Total (Lines 2 and 3)						0
5. Remaining permanent and portable space (report by classroom or square footage)						
6. Total (Lines 4 and 5)						0
7. Percentage (divide Line 4 by Line 6)						0.00%
						K-6
8. Enter enrollment year (yy/yy) _____ and CBEDS enrollment at school site						
9. Modernization Eligibility (multiply Line 7 by each grade group reported on Line 8)	0	0	0	0	0	

New Construction

- Provides funding to add classroom capacity to meet future student housing needs
- Funds costs for new school construction, classroom additions to existing schools, Site Acquisition, Site Development, and Minimum Essential Facilities

New Construction Eligibility Requirements

- Establishing New Construction Eligibility

Steps	Form(s)
1	<i>Enrollment Certification/Projection</i> (Form SAB 50-01)
2	<i>Existing School Building Capacity</i> (Form SAB 50-02)
3	<i>Eligibility Determination</i> (Form SAB 50-03)

- District-wide eligibility
- NEW with Prop 2: 5-year lock for small school districts
- Updates to New Construction eligibility via Form SAB 50-01

What is a Preliminary Program Apportionment?

- *Application for Preliminary Small School District Program Apportionment (Form SAB 50-12) for Modernization or New Construction projects*
- Reserves bond authority for estimated state grants + inflator factor

Project and Construction Management Grant

- Equal to five percent of the state share of the Preliminary Apportionment
- Available for districts to obtain services that assist with project planning from specified sources
- Recalculated at the time of conversion for full funding

Modernization Grants

- Historically, funding was provided on a 60/40 State and Local Share basis
 - **NEW with Prop. 2**: Sliding Scale for State and Local Share
- Base grant provides funding for design, construction, testing, inspection, furniture, equipment, and other costs for school construction

Modernization Supplemental Grants

- Supplemental grants are in addition to the base grant

NEW with Prop. 2:

- Permanent buildings 75 years old or older may receive additional funding
- Supplemental Grants for modernization projects that supports Career Technical Education (CTE) programs by reconfiguring existing facilities, or for the purchase of CTE related equipment
- Supplemental Grants to provide new TK classrooms
- Supplemental Grants to provide new, or expansions to, minimum essential facilities (specifically; gymnasiums, multipurpose rooms, libraries, and school kitchens)
- Energy Efficiency

New Construction Grants

- Historically, funding was provided on a 50/50 State and Local Share basis
 - **NEW with Prop. 2:** Sliding Scale for State and Local Share
- Base grant provides funding for design, construction, testing, inspection, furniture, equipment, and other costs for school construction
- Preliminary/Final Program Applications must be submitted to OPSC prior to student occupancy

New Construction Supplemental Grants

- Supplemental grants available in addition to the base grant
- Additional grants are available for site acquisition

NEW with Prop. 2:

- Energy Efficiency

Five Year Master Plan Requirements

Date of Application Submittal to OPSC	When is a local governing board resolution required?	When is Master Plan required?
Form SAB 50-12	At the time of application submittal	When the Final Apportionment (Form SAB 50-04) is submitted to OPSC.
Form SAB 50-04 for conversion to Final Apportionment	Not Applicable	Before or Concurrent with the Final Apportionment (Form SAB 50-04) submittal to OPSC.

Preliminary to Final Apportionment Process (Part One)

Step 1: Submit Form SAB 50-12 (Request Financial Hardship as applicable)

Step 2: OPSC processes Form SAB 50-12 (Financial Hardship eligibility is verified)

Step 3: SAB unfunded approval of Preliminary Apportionment (*skip to Step 6 if non-Financial Hardship/not requesting Advanced Site Acquisition*)

Step 4: Financial Hardship/Advance Release of Funds Only* Participate in next Priority Funding Round to request advance release of funds

Step 5: Financial Hardship/Advance Release of Funds Only* Submit *Fund Release Authorization* (Form SAB 50-05) for advance release of funds

****Financial Hardship applicants can request advance funding for site acquisition, design, project assistance, and/or the Project and Construction Management Grant. Non-Financial Hardship applicants can request advance environmental hardship site acquisition funding.***

Preliminary to Final Apportionment Process (Part Two)

Step 6: Submit Form SAB 50-04 with CDE, DSA approvals within four years** of Form SAB 50-12 approval (Request Financial Hardship as applicable)

Step 7: OPSC processes Form SAB 50-04 (Financial Hardship eligibility is re-verified)

Step 8: SAB unfunded approval for final Apportionment

Step 9: Participate in next Priority Funding Round

Step 10: Submit Form SAB 50-05 for final Apportionment fund release

****A one-year extension may be granted with advance approval of the State Allocation Board.**

Requirements* to Convert to Final Apportionment

- *Application for Funding* (Form SAB 50-04) submittal within four years of State Allocation Board approval of Preliminary Apportionment, or within five years if the State Allocation Board approves a one-year extension.
- California Department of Education (CDE) Plan Approval Letter
- CDE Final Site Approval Letter (site acquisition only)
- Escrow entered or complete, if buying new site, or if adding acreage to an existing site
- Five-Year Master Plan
- Division of the State Architect (DSA) Plan Approval Letter(s)
- New construction facilities may not be occupied before the Form SAB 50-04 is submitted!

**List only includes major requirements, see Form SAB 50-04 checklist for a more extensive list of required documents.*

Priority in Funding Process

Application processed under Bond Funding (ex: Proposition 2)



Top Tips for Successful Submittal

- Prepare/submit New Construction and Modernization eligibility establishments/updates in advance
- Obtain a Local Governing Board Resolution for the Five-Year Master Plan prior to the opening dates of the program
- Review new Prop 2 provisions for supplemental grants for applicable funding opportunities
- Ensure Authorized District Representatives are updated in OPSC Online
- Create draft Form SAB 50-12 in OPSC Online in advance of opening date(s)
- Connect with the Small School District Program/Financial Hardship teams/designated OPSC county project managers in advance to answer specific questions

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- By subscribing to the master list, you will receive:
 - All SAB/OPSC Meeting Notifications
 - SAB Agendas
 - Stakeholder Meeting Agendas
 - Priorities in Funding Announcements, and
 - Other SAB/OPSC Information

Points of Contact

OPSC Website:

➤ www.dgs.ca.gov/opsc

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