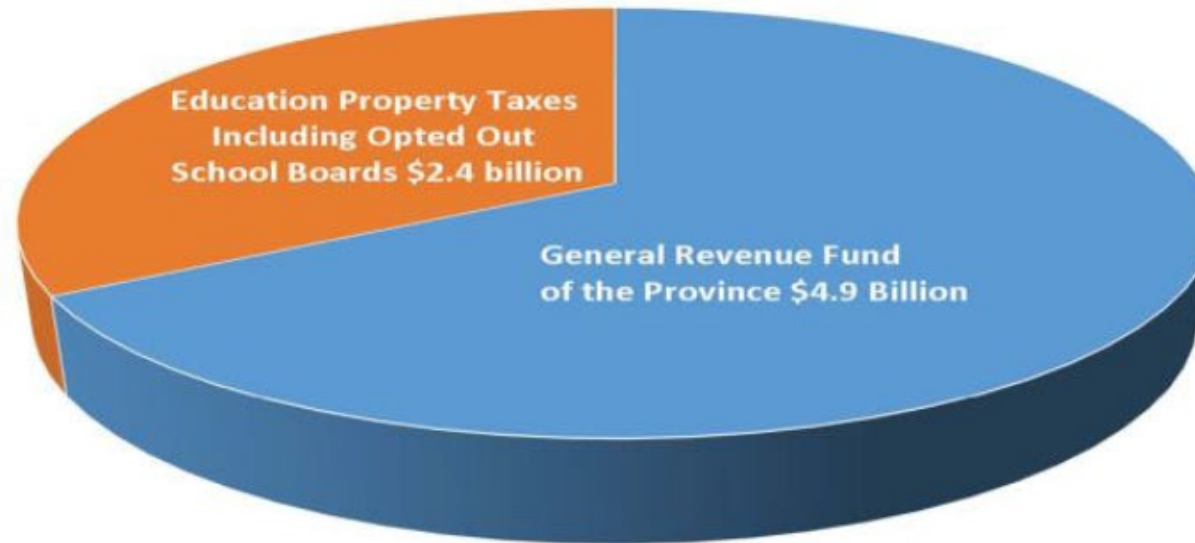


# Alberta's Funding Framework

# Where Does Education Funding Come From?

## Budget 2018 Operating Support to School Boards \$7.4 Billion



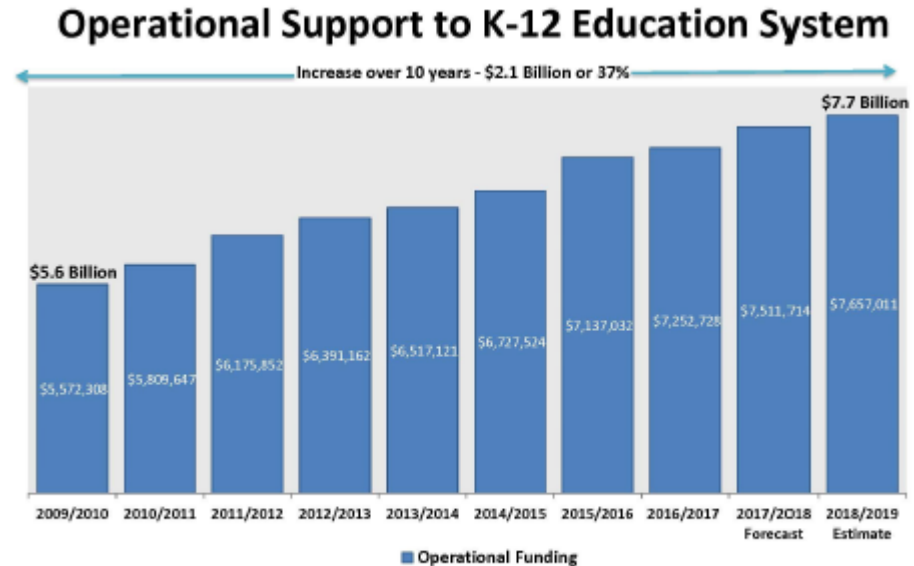
# Education Funding Sources

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- The education property tax is pooled into the **Alberta School Foundation Fund**, and then distributed among Alberta's public and separate school boards on an equal per-student basis
- The total amount of education property tax is based on 32 percent of Education's operating cost
- The balance of education funding is provided for through the General Revenue Fund of the Government of Alberta
- Using two revenue streams provides stability for education funding and ensures equitable access of quality education for all students across Alberta

# Increased investment in K-12 education

Since the 2009/10 fiscal year, operational support for K-12 education has increased from \$5.6 billion to \$7.7 billion in 2018/19. This is an increase of 37 per cent.



*Note: Non-consolidated expenses do not include school board expenses and capital investment financed by other revenue sources. Operational funding is sourced from the General Revenue Fund and education property taxes.*

# Who receives support?

Alberta Education provides funding to school authorities. When it comes to selecting a school, parents and students can choose from a wide range of options. They can select from public, separate, Francophone, private and charter schools. They can also access unique and innovative programs, including home education, online/virtual schools, outreach programs and alternative programs.

School Type	2018/19 Student Projection ECS - Grade 12	% of Student Population
Public School System (includes: Public, Separate, Francophone and Charter)	663,920	95%
Private School System (private schools and private early childhood service operators)	36,395	5%
<b>Total Funded Students</b>	<b>700,315</b>	<b>100%</b>

Estimates of Headcount as of March 2018

# Through Budget 2018:

- Operating support for public, separate, francophone and charter school jurisdictions will reach \$7.4 billion. This is an increase of \$140 million or 1.9 per cent from last year.
- Private schools and private early childhood services (ECS) operators will receive \$274 million for the 2018-19 fiscal year.
- The government portion of the current services contributions to the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund is \$410 million for the 2018/19 fiscal year. Alberta Treasury Board and Finance will contribute \$477 million for the cost of Teachers' pre-1992 teachers' pension plan payments.

# Funding Framework – Three Pillars

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## Funding

- Method of allocating funds equitably
- Approximately 25 different grants
- Addresses common costs as well as unique characteristics and circumstances of school authorities

## Flexibility

- Majority of funding is flexible
- Only a few targeted grants must be used for the purpose provided
- Supports local decision making

## Accountability

- Measuring achievement and improvement
- Using results to improve programs for students
- Transparency for how school boards use their financial resources



# Types of Grants

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## Base Instruction

- Largest component of funding
- Provided for every eligible full-time equivalent student
  - ECS to Grade 9 – per student basis
  - Grades 10 to 12 – based on credit enrolment units (CEUs)

## Differential Funding

- Based on the unique characteristics of each authority
  - Demographic – the types of students served
  - Geographic – area of the province in which students live
  - Economic – economic conditions under which students are served
- Examples: Inclusive Education, Equity of Opportunity, Transportation, English as a Second Language, First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI), Socio-Economic Status

## Targeted Funding

- Provided for specific provincial initiatives
- Must be used for the initiative for which it was provided
- Examples: Regional Collaborative Service Delivery, SuperNet, School Nutrition

100%  
Flexible



# Funding Eligibility

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- **Most grants are per pupil driven**
  - September 30 enrolment
- **Funding claims must be accurate and meet eligibility requirements**
  - Citizenship
  - Residency
  - Access to instruction
  - Coding – ESL, Refugee, FNMI
- **Funding eligibility monitored by Department**
  - System controls, random sampling, desk audits and on-site audits

# How are funds distributed?

Funding for K-12 education in Alberta is provided primarily on a per-student basis. The funding framework allocates funding to school authorities based on the demographic and geographic environment in which services are delivered to students.

- **Demographic** – the number and type of students served.
- **Geographic** – area of the province in which the students are being served.

# How are funds distributed? - continued

The funding framework provides six main categories of funding:

- A. Base funding
- B. Differential funding
- C. First Nations, Metis and Inuit related funding
- D. Targeted funding
- E. Other Provincial support
- F. Capital funding (not provided to private or charter schools)

## B. Additional Funding for Differential Factors

Differential funding is provided in addition to base funding and addresses the unique characteristics and circumstances of each school authority. A selection of the significant differential grants follows.

1. Severe Disabilities Funding—Kindergarten
2. English as a Second Language (ESL)
3. Francisation Funding
4. Socio-Economic Status (SES) Funding
5. Northern Allowance Funding
6. Equity of Opportunity Funding
7. Inclusive Education Funding
8. Plan Operations and Maintenance (POM) Funding
9. Transportation Funding

# D. Targeted Funding

Targeted funding is in addition to base and differential funding and is provided for specific provincial initiatives. This funding must be used for the initiative it was intended.

1. Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD)
2. High-Speed Networking Services Funding
3. Class Size Funding
4. School Nutrition Program
5. School Fees
6. School Transportation Fees
7. Dual Credit Programming

# F. Capital Funding

1. School Facilities Funding
2. Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal Funding
3. School Capital Plan

# F. Capital Funding continued

## **1. School Facilities Funding**

This funding is provided only to public school boards to build new or replacement schools, modernize or renovate existing school facilities, construct modular classrooms or relocate existing portables.

## **2. Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal Funding**

This funding is provided to maintain safe and healthy school facilities. It is intended to improve and prolong the life of school buildings and to upgrade school facilities in general, including the replacement of roofs; boilers and mechanical systems; water and sewer lines; and windows and doors. This funding may also be used to improve the energy efficiency of schools. A total of \$188 million is provided in Budget 2018 for this pro-gram.



# F. Capital Funding

## **3. School Capital Plan**

Budget 2018 includes \$742 million in total consolidated capital investment to continue government investment in over 200 school facilities projects across the province. Of this total, \$525 million is budgeted by Alberta Infrastructure to support school projects underway across the province, \$116 million in Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) program, and \$100 million for school board own-sourced capital investment.