

Healthy Schools Initiative

DUE: October 31, 2021

About the Healthy Schools Grants

As part of the Healthy Schools Initiative, schools receive the Healthy School Grant (HSG) annually to support their Healthy Schools plans and priorities. It is available to support schools as they work together with their community partners (including local regional health authorities) to build healthy school communities. School division funding is calculated as \$125.00 + \$2.06 per student in the school.

Activities are planned and implemented based on the needs identified within the school community and align with the priority health topics of Healthy Schools (healthy eating, mental health promotion, physical activity, safety and injury prevention, sexual health, and substance abuse and addictions). The grants are also intended to improve the health outcomes for priority student populations, including low socioeconomic status, Indigenous populations, Newcomers and LGBTQ2* students.

When allocating funds, it is recommended that individual schools should complete the healthy school planner on an annual basis. This free, online tool also allows schools to further explore one or more specific topics such as healthy eating, physical activity, positive mental health, and tobacco use. The Healthy School Planner can be accessed from the Healthy Schools website. Schools and divisions are encouraged to use results from surveillance tools to facilitate evidence-informed decision making. More information is available at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/healthyschools/hsggrant/index.html>.

Guidelines for Allocation of Healthy Schools Grant

Healthy Schools Grants can be used to support:

- Direct programming for Kindergarten to Grade 12 students;
- Population-health programming, delivered by certified instructors (cannot include paid salaried positions);
- One-time events (e.g. wellness days or community events) with clear intent to integrate community members in the school environment or increase parental engagement;
- Speaker fees or presentations that relate directly to the identified priority areas;
- Field trips, experiential learning and knowledge enhancement, relating to the identified priority areas (cannot include fuel or transportation costs);
- Building staff capacity within priority areas (not to exceed 30% of funding);
- Equipment purchases with evidence of availability for all students' use, supplementing equipment available to programming for priority populations, when no other funding source is available.

Healthy Schools Grants cannot be used to support:

- Fuel or transportation costs;
- Conference fees for teachers;
- Textbooks;
- Facility safety (e.g. radon testing);
- "Our School" (Tell Them from Me) Survey modules;
- Retreats for administrators and associated meeting costs;

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- Salaried positions (e.g. clinicians, social worker, therapist, AFM worker);
- Health screening (e.g. vision, hearing, behavioural assessments or oral health screens);
- Capital or facility expenses, however, equipment for focussed programming can be purchased as noted above;
- Therapeutic interventions or individual interventions (e.g. home placement transition supports, one-on-one counseling, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy or other behavioural interventions)

Guidelines for Completing and Submitting the HSG Report

The annual report provides an account of Healthy Schools activities from the 2020-21 school year. Completion of the report is required to receive the Healthy Schools Grant for the 2021-22 school year. First Nations and Independent schools are required to provide a letter or email, from the principal or staff member responsible for administering the Healthy Schools Grant, by October 31st each year, which outlines:

- The amount of funding received.
- Priority focus areas (healthy eating, mental health promotion, physical activity, safety and injury prevention, sexual health, and substance abuse and addictions) where funds were spent.
- Activities, programs or equipment purchases supported by Healthy Schools Grant funds.
- Short narrative (2-3 sentences) outlining each activity identified above.
- Short narrative (2-3 sentences) outlining how funding decisions were made (e.g. committee, sources of data, community needs assessment)

If these reporting requirements are not met, schools will not be eligible for Healthy Schools Grants in subsequent years.

There are 2 ways the HSG Report can be completed and submitted:

1. **Email** – complete the report in “word document” format OR in the body of an email, and submit to healthyschools@gov.mb.ca
2. **Mail** – complete the report and mail a hard copy to the Healthy Schools Initiative (4073-300 Carlton Street, Winnipeg MB R3B 3M9). Please keep a copy for your records prior to mailing.

Direct inquires about reports to: Jennifer Wood, Healthy Schools Initiative
Email: healthyschools@gov.mb.ca
Phone: 204-786-7345
4073-300 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 3M9