



DATE: August 23, 2023

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Shawna Warren, Superintendent

ORIGINATOR: Amy Kolesar, Manager, Transportation

GOVERNANCE POLICY: [Policy 405 – Budget Development and Transparency](#)
[Policy 500 - Transportation](#)

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE: *Education Act: Sections 139(1)(2), 143, 180, 183, 184*
Education Act: Sections 7(1), 4(1)(8), 59(1)
School Transportation Regulation AR96/2019

Assurance Domain - [Governance](#)

SUBJECT: School Bus Driver Training Grants

PURPOSE:

For information.

BACKGROUND:

July 2023, the Government of Alberta provided additional information regarding the School Bus Driver Training Grants which are available to all school authorities to support the training of Class 2 and Class 4 school bus drivers that transport students to and from their schools. There are two grants available for drivers that have started training on or after April 1, 2023. The first submission deadline was August 10, 2023. School authorities are required to submit one application per quarter. The Division will continue to support Contractors in receiving these grant dollars moving forward.

The first grant is the *Training Costs and Driver Reimbursement Grant* which is available for new Class 2 and Class 4 drivers upon successful completion of driver training and testing. There is \$4,000 available for a new Class 2 Driver with \$2,800 being allocated for training costs and \$1,200 being allocated for driver reimbursement. There is \$2,000 available for a new Class 4 Driver with \$1,400 being allocated for training costs and \$600 being allocated for driver reimbursement.

The second grant is the *Driver Competency Training Grant* which is for Class 2 and 4 drivers to support the cost of additional driver training that is being provided to both newly licensed and experienced school bus drivers that participate in a six-month competency training program provided by their employer. There is \$4,000 available to be claimed for this grant. To be eligible to receive this grant, school bus drivers are required to complete a 50-hour training program over a six-month period. There are 9 areas of competency which need to be covered during the training period.



These grants were released as part of the 2023-2024 Funding Manual. The objective of the grants are to address rising costs for school bus driver training so that additional costs are not passed on to families. The Division is committed to supporting Contractors in accessing these newly available grants moving forward.

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the August 23, 2023, Public Board meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Not applicable.