



LDAO SEAC CIRCULAR

June 2018

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) SEAC Circular is published 5 times a year, in September, November, February, April and June.

The following are some topics that your SEAC should be looking at. Action items and/or recommendations for effective practices will be underlined.

Feel free to share any of this information or the attachments with other SEAC members. As always, when you are planning to introduce a motion for the consideration of SEAC, it is particularly important that you share all related background items with your fellow SEAC reps.

The topics covered by this SEAC Circular:

1. Pre-planning for the 2018-19 SEAC year
2. Accessibility updates
3. SEA Per Pupil Amount funding
4. Cannabis education resources
5. LDAO Educators Institute

List of Supplementary Materials:

1. Draft PAAC on SEAC Annual Calendar 2019-20
2. K-12 Education Standards Development Committee Key Messages
3. Educators' Institute flyer

Note: You can access the SEAC Circular and supplementary materials at www.ldao.ca/about/public-policy-advocacy/seac-circulars/.

You can access Ministry memos by date at: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/memos/>

1. Pre-planning for the 2018-19 SEAC year

Many SEACs begin planning their agendas for the following academic year in June. To facilitate this process, a draft PAAC on SEAC Annual Calendar is attached, with dates updated. A revised version, with any new Ministry initiatives, will be sent in September.

The *PAAC on SEAC Effective Practices Handbook* (2016) outlines effective practices to help SEACs develop an annual plan (see: **Section 3 SEAC Roles & Responsibilities**, <http://www.paac-seac.ca/home/paac-on-seac-effective-practices-handbook-for-seac-members/section-3-seac-roles-and-responsibilities/3-1-annual-planning/>)

2. Accessibility updates

TheTeachAbleProject is a curriculum resource on accessibility issues. TheTeachAbleProject.org has ready-to-use lesson plans, resources and professional development tools. It is designed to help Ontario educators and school board staff build their awareness of accessibility issues, and to equip them with the information and materials they need to educate and inspire students. The site is a joint project by Ontario school boards, funded by the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario. The content was created by Ontario educators and is available in English and French. During the 2017-18 school year, the site was upgraded and relaunched.

The **Accessible Education Standard Development Committee** has begun to meet to develop recommendations for a new standard. The committee is divided into two sections, one looking at K–12 education, and one at postsecondary education. There will be a joint subcommittee set up of members from the K-12 group and the postsecondary group, to look at overlapping issues.

Key Messages from the April meeting of the K-12 committee are attached.

3. SEA Per Pupil Amount Funding

There is an important change in the documentation required for SEA Per Pupil Amount Funding, as outlined in [Special Equipment Amount \(SEA\), 2018-19](#). Supporting documentation for SEA PPA purchases is now reduced to the purchase invoice and a copy of the student's current Individual Education Plan (IEP) that provides evidence of the intended use of the equipment in the student's program. That means a professional assessment making recommendations for SEA technology is no longer required for PPA funding, although it is still required for SEA Claims-Based funding. Computer related equipment and software come under the SEA Per Pupil Amount funding.

The new SEA Guidelines also state that SEA PPA equipment may be used by more than one student, at a school board's discretion, although boards must continue to ensure that the equipment needs of students are being met.

4. Cannabis education resources

In preparation for the upcoming legalization of cannabis for recreational use, the Ministry has committed funding to develop resources and supports for the education sector, and funding to school boards to support training for administrators and educators. Currently, the Ministry has posted education resources for educators and parents, and highlighted a resource for youth developed by the Kids Help Phone line.

[Cannabis Information for Educators](#)

[Cannabis: What Parents/Guardians and Caregivers Need to Know](#)

<https://kidshelpphone.ca/article/cannabis-important-things-know>

5. LDAO Educators' Institute

The **Educators' Institute** is a two-day bilingual conference aimed at providing Ontario educators with relevant and practical information and strategies to support their students with learning disabilities. It will take place on August 21st & 22nd, 2018, at the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale.

For more information and registration: www.ldatschool.ca/annual-educators-institute/.

Please share the **attached flyer** with educators at your school board.

Questions? Email Diane Wagner at dianew@LDAO.ca or call (416) 929-4311 Ex. 22 (Mon.)