



Department of Economic Development & Transportation

SCIENCE EDUCATION ENABLING PROGRAM POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

The Department of Economic Development & Transportation recognizes that a solid foundation in math and science provides an opportunity for Nunavummiut to pursue interests and careers in math, science, and technology.

PURPOSE

This policy is intended to support students' interest and enrolment in school math and science courses, and encourage them to pursue further education, skills development and careers in math, science and technology.

PRINCIPLES

The policy is based on the following principles:

- The *Inuit Societal Values of Piliriqatigiinni/ Ikajuqtigiinni* (working together for a common cause), and *Pilimmaksarniq/ Pijariuqsarniq* (development of skills through action and effort).
- Fostering students' interest in math and science will help them excel at academic studies and lead to careers in the expanding minerals sectors.
- Science camps and science-based extra-curricular programs are a valuable tool in teaching practical hands-on science and for motivating Nunavut youth to pursue careers in science and technology.

APPLICATION

The *Science Education Enabling Program Policy* establishes the general terms and conditions by which the Department of Economic Development & Transportation will encourage and motivate students to excel in academic studies in math and science through:

- I. Math and Science Awards Fund (Schedule A)
- II. Independent Science Programs for Youth (I-SPY) Fund (Schedule B)

DEFINITIONS

Grant

A grant is an unconditional transfer payment made to the recipient for which the government will not receive any goods or services.

Not-for-profit Organization

Includes:

- a society registered under the *Nunavut Societies Act*;
- a not-for-profit corporation registered under the *Canada Corporations Act*;
- a registered charity;
- a student organization with a Lottery Licence under the *Lotteries Act*; or
- a student organization with the written support of a principal, municipal council, or district education authority.

Qualifying Science Program

A science-oriented extra-curricular program that provides opportunities for Nunavut youth to engage in learning science in a practical and hands on approach.

Eligible areas of focus include mathematics, technology, geology, computer science, engineering, biology, chemistry or physics.

AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Executive Council

The Executive Council shall approve program provisions and any exceptions to this policy.

Financial Management Board

The Financial Management Board approves an annual budget for grants funded under this policy, as well as expenditures additional to those appropriated in the Main Estimates, in the event of unplanned needs.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Minister

The Minister will table annually in the Legislative Assembly a summary of grants detailing the amount of each grant, name of the recipient and community.

The Minister may delegate authority to approve grant agreements under this policy to the department head or the Director of Minerals & Petroleum.

The Minister shall establish and communicate clear and transparent procedures and criteria for allocation of funds under this policy that address:

- Application Process
- Evaluation Criteria
- Terms and Conditions

General Conditions

- All provisions contained in the *Financial Administration Act, its regulations*, and the Financial Administration Manual shall apply to the financial administration of all grants issued by the department.
- All provisions contained in the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* shall apply to grants issued by the department.
- Grants will be provided only to the limit and availability of funding allocated to this program within the main estimates of the budget.
- All recipients of grants must agree to public disclosure and to allowing agents of the department to obtain any information necessary for evaluating the success of the program.
- Information upon which decisions for grants are based will be available to the public in annual scheduled reporting, and all decision-making processes will be fair, transparent, and without conflict of interest.

PREROGATIVE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Nothing in this directive shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Executive Council to make decisions or to take actions, respecting grants, or any other form of assistance, either direct or indirect, outside the provisions of this policy.

SUNSET CLAUSE

This policy will be effective from the date of signature until March 31, 2012.

Original Signed by: _____

Premier and Chair of the
Executive Council

Schedule A: Math and Science Awards Fund

1. Purpose

The *Math and Science Awards Fund* supports students' interest and enrolment in school math and science courses, and encourages them to pursue further education, skills development and careers in math, science and technology.

2. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility for grants under the program is restricted to students in Nunavut schools who are enrolled in grade eight, ten or twelve. Eligible students will demonstrate some or all of the following:

- A good level of understanding in math and/or science;
- Good work habits and school attendance;
- A genuine interest, motivation and dedication to learning math and/or science; and/or
- Significant growth or improvement in math and/or science.

Eligibility is determined by the Director of Minerals & Petroleum.

3. Review/Supporting Data

Eligible schools must submit a completed Math and Science Awards Program Application Form for each recipient. The application form will require the signature of the principal and the recipient, and must be submitted to the department four (4) weeks prior to the school's awards or graduation ceremonies. It will include:

- Relevant school information; and
- Recipient's personal information and qualifications.

4. Amount

The program will provide \$800 annually per community and distributed as follows:

- The grade eight recipient will be awarded \$175;
- The grade ten recipient will be awarded \$275; and
- The grade twelve recipient will be awarded \$350.

The awards are to be presented during the school's end-of-year or graduation ceremony and will be accompanied by a letter of congratulations from the Minister.

Schedule B: Independent Science Programs for Youth (I-SPY) Fund

1. Purpose

The Independent Science Programs for Youth (I-SPY) Fund will provide funding support to develop and carry out science-based extra-curricular programming for Nunavut youth.

2. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility for grants under this program is restricted to Not-for-profit Organizations, as defined in this policy, that deliver extra-curricular, Qualifying Science Programs for Nunavut youth.

Eligibility is determined by the Director of Minerals & Petroleum.

3. Eligible Costs

Eligible costs include costs associated with holding or attending science-related events, and the purchase of equipment or supplies required for the operation of an extra-curricular science program.

4. Review/Supporting Data

An applicant must submit:

- A signed application form; and
- A proposal which demonstrates that the program to be delivered will engage students in science activities, generate interest in science among students, and promote careers in science.

Additional requirements:

- Proposals must provide sufficient detail to allow the department to assess the educational, scientific and motivational value of the program, and the resources required to deliver it; and
- All grant recipients must sign an agreement agreeing to the terms of the grant prior to issue of the payment.

Recipients are requested to disclose in their annual financial statements the details of grants received under this program, including amount, purpose, and disposition.

After completion of the project, recipients will be requested to report on the use of project funds, student participation, and the educational benefits realized by participants.

The assessment of new applications from past recipients will take into account the recipient's previous use of funding, as substantiated by project reporting.

5. Amount

Total grants provided under this program will not exceed \$50,000 annually. This program will fund a percentage of the eligible costs of delivering an extra-curricular science program.

The maximum annual grant is normally \$5,000 per recipient, with exceptions possible for projects which involve students from more than one community.

The percentage of eligible costs funded by this program will be 75% for Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay and Baker Lake; 80% for decentralized communities; and 85% for all other communities.

The department may divide the annual amount allocated to this program into amounts in order to support activities at different times of the year, such as summer science camps or science club or science fair activities during the school year. Any such apportionments will be set out in the procedures established by Minister.

Grants are provided in a lump sum payment.

5. Communications

Each year one or more calls for proposals will be sent to each school and stakeholder organization at times set out in the procedures established by the Minister.