

Ministry of Education

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Ministère de l'Éducation

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MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education
Supervisory Officers and Secretary-Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Kirsten Parker
Director
Student Success/Learning to 18
Implementation, Training and Evaluation Branch

Ginette Plourde
Director
French-Language Education Policy and Programs Branch

DATE: May 10, 2007

SUBJECT: Learning to 18 Lighthouse Project Funding 2007-08

As you know, the purpose of Lighthouse Projects has been to encourage boards to embark on projects they may not have otherwise had the opportunity to implement. Where evidence has shown that projects were beneficial to students at-risk and financially sustainable, boards were encouraged to continue these programs as part of their regular board programming. On this basis, Lighthouse Projects have supported students' success through innovative programs that helped students accumulate credits, developed pathways to college, university, apprenticeship and the workplace, and encouraged youth who have left school to return.

This year the total amount of funding for Lighthouse is \$7.0 million. While the Student Success initiative continues to promote the improvement of student achievement for all students, research has indicated that certain groups of students require additional support in order to achieve success. Therefore, the focus of Lighthouse funding for 2007-08 will be to support programs for groups of students where there has been a documented gap between their achievement and that of the overall student population.

New this year, boards will be considered for projects that provide supports to recognized groups of students in grades 7 to 12 who have been determined to be at-risk. Projects may include a combination of mentoring, intervention programs like credit rescue, developmental pathways, counseling, credit recovery, return to school, and/or other supports that improve the student achievement for identified groups such as:

- 16 and 17 year old youth who have withdrawn from high school for at least one semester
- 16 and 17 year old students who have withdrawn from parental control and obtained their own right to attend school where they are living
- Aboriginal students
- Boys in their literacy skills
- Crown wards
- English Language Learners

- Students who experience difficulty in school due to mental health issues, conflict with the law, or substance abuse
- Students with special education needs
- Other: Please provide a data-informed rationale to support funding for a group of students who have been determined by your board to be at-risk and have not been included above.

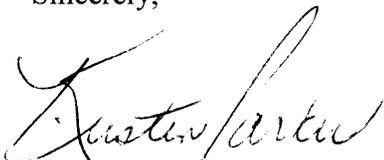
Please complete the following application form if you wish to apply for Lighthouse funding for the 2007-08 school year. An individual budget request is required for each project you are willing to commit to operating. This year's funding is for teacher(s), classroom support staff, other professional staff and student transportation.

As in the past the approved project's funding must be matched at the same level through the board whether the program is operating in either first or second semester, or both. In addition to the annual financial report, there will be interim and final reports for each project each semester. Boards are also requested to track students' progress for two years following their participation in the program. I'm pleased to announce that the reporting forms have been streamlined from previous years.

Please submit your application form electronically to studentsuccess@ontario.ca no later than May 31, 2007 with a copy to Rick Victor (rick.victor@ontario.ca).

Thank you in advance for your support for this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Parker



Ginette Plourde

Encl.

- c. Student Success Leaders
Regional Managers
Grant Clarke, Director, SSL18SPB
Kit Rankin, Director, FSB
Sue Durst, Director, CAPB