

Subject: **Accessibility of Schools for the Physically Disabled**
Effective: July 1, 1980
Revised: *June 1994; July 1, 2001*

1.0 PURPOSE

This policy aims to establish requirements for the physical accessibility of schools for physically disabled persons.

2.0 APPLICATION

This policy applies to all school districts.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

None

4.0 LEGAL AUTHORITY

[Education Act](#) – Sections:

- 12(1) Where the superintendent concerned, after consultation with qualified persons, determines that the behavioural, communicational, intellectual, physical, perceptual or multiple exceptionalities of a person are contributing to delayed educational development such that a special education program is considered by the superintendent to be necessary for the person, that person shall be an exceptional person for the purpose of this Act.

- 12(3) The superintendent concerned shall place exceptional pupils such that they receive special education programs and services in circumstances where exceptional pupils can participate with pupils who are not exceptional pupils within regular classroom settings to the extent that is considered practicable by the superintendent having due regard for the educational needs of all pupils.

- 45(1) All school property is vested in the Minister.

- 45(4)(b) The Minister shall determine the physical plant standards for a safe and healthy school facility.

- 45(4)(d) The Minister in consultation with the District Education Council concerned, may construct and furnish schools, school district offices and other school buildings.

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5.0 GOALS / PRINCIPLES

Every effort will be made to make all schools fully accessible to physically disabled persons.

6.0 REQUIREMENTS / STANDARDS

6.1 New Construction

6.1.1 All new school buildings shall be barrier free to the physically disabled.

6.2 Existing Buildings

6.2.1 Where additions and major renovations are being carried out on existing school buildings, every effort will be made to make the buildings barrier free as required to meet the needs of physically disabled persons.

6.2.2 Requests for school modifications shall be incorporated in the submission under the capital improvement program.

7.0 GUIDELINES / RECOMMENDATIONS

None

8.0 DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL POLICY-MAKING

A District Education Council may establish policies regarding the maintenance of facility modifications for the physical accessibility of physically disabled persons, not inconsistent with this policy.

9.0 REFERENCES

None

10.0 CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION

Department of Education – Educational Facilities Branch
(506) 453-2242

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