



STEM School Facilities Assistance Guidelines

Subject: Program Guidelines
Approval: Commission Resolution 12-36

Issued: May 24, 2012
Revised: N/A

APPLIES TO

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) schools established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code not governed by a single school district board of education.

POLICY

House Bill 153 of the 129th General Assembly authorized the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) to provide funding to assist STEM schools in the constructing, reconstructing, repairing, or making additions to classroom facilities. The STEM school must secure at least 50 percent of the total cost from non-state sources. In general, Vocational Facilities Assistance Program policies and procedures apply to STEM school facilities unless otherwise provided in law or waived by the Commission.

A. Eligibility

A school must be a STEM school that is not governed by a single school district board of education, as prescribed by section 3326.51 of the Revised Code.

B. Process for Project Approval

1. The regional STEM school submits to the Commission a formal request for funding consideration. The request will be in a form designated by the Commission and will include, but is not limited to, contact information, student enrollment and staffing data, an overview of the STEM school's educational program, a description of any existing facilities, a detailed project rationale, and both the total amount of state funding requested and the amount of non-state funding pledged for the acquisition of the classroom facilities.
2. OSFC staff reviews the proposal. The review criteria include:
 - a. Does the proposal meet statutory requirements?
 - b. Will the project address the STEM school's educational program within the Commission's policies and practices?
 - c. Is the project affordable within both state and non-state resources?

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3. The Executive Director will be provided information about the project to make a determination on whether the funding request should be submitted to the Commission for approval. The Executive Director will notify the STEM school in writing if the request has been denied for any reason.
 4. The Executive Director recommends program funding for the current fiscal year to the Commission based upon staff recommendations, funding availability and other OSFC programs to be funded in the fiscal year.
 5. The project will be submitted to the Controlling Board for approval.
 6. If the Controlling Board approves that funding, the commission will enter into an agreement with the governing body of the STEM school for the acquisition of the classroom facilities. The agreement must include a stipulation of the ownership of the classroom facilities in the event the STEM school permanently closes at any time.