

FAQ

Public School Building Capital Fund

What types of projects can I fund with PSBCF money?

A. Purchase of land for public school buildings; planning and design fees; construction; renovation; enlargement; repair; school technology; and (under certain conditions) debt service. For details, see the document “Procedures Manual” on the PSBCF webpage. To see how Lottery funding differs from ADM funding, see the document “Lottery : ADM Comparison,” also on the PSBCF webpage.

What types of projects are excluded from use of PSBCF money?

A. Facilities that are not used for instructional and related purposes, such as centralized administration, maintenance, bus garage, and similar facilities. Also, PSBCF can't be used to buy furniture or furnishing (such as desks and window blinds).

What about Technology? What is “technology,” anyway?

A. Lottery funds cannot be used to purchase technology, but ADM funds can, and without having a 1:3 match. Some things are obviously “technology,” such as computers and printers. In less obvious cases, we look at the Technology Plan which was submitted by the LEA to the DPI allotments section. If it's on the Technology Plan, then it is “technology” for purposes of PSBCF funding.

Why can't I use PSBCF money for roof repair?

A. The legislative intent was to use PSBCF money for “construction” projects rather than “maintenance” projects. Lacking a legislative definition of “repairs,” we have evolved the following guidance over time: (1) If you are tearing off and/or patching a small part or section of a roof to fix a leak, it is paid from local maintenance funds. (2) If you are removing the roof from a building, or from a wing of a building, or from a large area of a building (such as from expansion joint to expansion joint), or covering it, or replacing it with a new roof, that is ok to be funded under the PSBCF. (Drawings / specifications are to be submitted to DPI for review.)

Why can't I use PSBCF money for repair of a pothole in the driveway? Or for repair of a hole in the fence? Or for replacing a broken window glass? Or for...etc.

A. See “roof repair,” above. We apply the same logic. So, if you are constructing a new driveway or totally resurfacing a parking lot, PSBCF can help. Likewise, if you are removing all the windows in the school and installing more energy-efficient windows, PSBCF can be used.

Why do I have to submit drawings and specifications to School Planning for review, before I can receive PSBCF money?

A. We can help you fund preconstruction expenses such as land purchase, planning or architects fees, surveying, etc. without having drawings to review. However, NC GS 115C-521(c) says no funds shall be expended *for construction* until DPI has reviewed the appropriate documents. For guidance, see the publication “Projects Reviewed by DPI School Planning,” on the School Planning webpage. Not all types of projects are required to be reviewed by School Planning, but for those projects which are to be reviewed, no construction funding from the PSBCF is available unless a Certificate of Review is on file.