



JOHN
ABBOTT
COLLEGE
FACULTY
ASSOCIATION

SYNDICAT
DES PROFESSEURS
DU COLLEGE
JOHN ABBOTT

A MEMBER OF FNEEQ AND CSN

Dear Colleague,

We are writing you concerning the recent call for applications for S024 projects, sent by the College on Thursday, November 3.

In particular, we want to alert you to the fact that some of the projects do not respect the actual funding guidelines prescribed by the government. According to the ministerial directives, a draft of which is attached (relevant section found in [lines 33-38](#)), the funds should be allocated to teachers for work with special needs students and/or students with disabilities. There are explicit references to both categories in our Collective Agreement, in both past and present editions, that provide a clear indication of the types of students these groups encompass (see [Collective Agreement 2010-2015 ed.](#), art. 2-2.05 section f; or [2015-2020 ed.](#), art. 2-2.05, section d).

In a recent joint [union-government \(FNEEQ-CPNC\) study](#), it was clearly documented that the resource needs in the classroom presented by special needs students/students with disabilities are substantial and growing. This particular funding, a key demand during our last round of Collective Agreement negotiations, was designed to meet some of these needs.

Consequently, we believe it is important for us to respect the intent of the funding and not over-extend its target population, for instance, use them for other “at risk” student groups, or for general student success initiatives. We have a moral and legal responsibility to ensure that this disadvantaged group receives the resources that it was meant to receive.

We are hence recommending that teachers and departments ***only*** participate in projects that respect the ministerial guidelines.

Here is a list of projects that, based to our assessment, do ***not*** respect the funding guidelines:

Project 2: Nursing Support

Project 4: Instructional Designer for the First Year Seminar for the Crossroads program

Project 7: Probation and Social Science Project

Project 8: Macroeconomics Support

Project 9: French Language Courses

Project 10: English Language Courses

We want to reiterate that inclusion in the above list does not represent a judgment on the quality, necessity, or validity of the said projects; rather, it is an indication that their funding should not come from the portion of the S024 envelope specifically earmarked for special needs students/students with disabilities.

In the meantime, JACFA will continue in its attempts to negotiate with the College to find a collaborative way forward on this file. Because any unused funds in the envelope are carried over to the following year, we believe we should take the time needed that the funds are properly allocated.

We have also enclosed a FNEEQ report that provides a detailed background to the legal, historical, pedagogical, and work-related context to teaching special needs students.

In solidarity,

The JACFA executive