

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Arts Grant in Primary Schools & Special Schools in the Free Education Scheme

1. Introduction

The Department of Education has allocated funding for primary and special schools in the free education system to purchase physical resources supporting the new Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and Arts curricula.

2. Rate

Grants are calculated as follows:

- Fixed payment per school: €500.00
- Per-pupil payment: €14.03
- DEIS/SEN rate per pupil: €16.13

3. Main features of the Grant

This grant is strictly for resources and materials that support the STEM and Arts curricula implementation. ICT equipment is not covered because separate ICT grants address these needs.

Examples of resources and materials:

- **STEM:** Weighing scales, trundle wheel, counters, geoboards, place value cards, blocks and shapes and hands-on experiment tools.
- **Arts:** Paints, canvases, musical instruments, and drama props. This focus ensures resources enhance practical learning experiences.

4. Financial Oversight

The grant income and expenditure should be recorded appropriately in the school's accounts. There is no new grant income code required to be added to the chart of accounts.

- **Grant Income:** The grant receipt can be recorded to nominal code 3170 Special Subject Grant (Code name changed to "Other Subject Grant" in 2025/2026).
- **Grant Expense:** There is no new expenditure code required to be added to the chart of accounts. The expenditure can be recorded to nominal account "4490 Other Subject Expense".

- **Grant Unspent:** Any unspent amount must be included in the balance sheet at the year-end under the account code 2171 Other Non-Capital Ringfenced Grants Unspent.

Schools must ensure compliance with [DPER Circular 13/2014, Management of and Accountability for Grants from Exchequer Funds](#).

5. Procurement

Schools can choose the resources and suppliers that best meet their needs. When purchasing resources, schools must follow public procurement rules to ensure value for money. It is recommended to obtain at least 3 quotes and maintain full records for audits. Schools can contact the [Schools Procurement Unit](#) for support on procurement.

6. Reference

This guideline is based on Department of Education guidance '[Grants to primary schools for the purchase of resources and materials to support the implementation of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics \(STEM\) and Arts curricula in the redeveloped primary curriculum](#)'.

7. Further Information

Any queries in relation to the guidance should be emailed to Curriculum & Assessment Policy Unit at the cap@education.gov.ie.

Financial Support Services Unit

Tel: 01 910 4020

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17 December 2024

An Deontas Eolaíochta, Teicneolaíochta, Innealtóireachta agus Matamaitice (STEM) agus Ealaíon i mBunscoileanna agus Scoileanna Speisialta sa Scéim Saoroideachais

1. Réamhrá

Tá maoiniú curtha i leataobh ag an Roinn Oideachais le cumasú do bhunscoileanna agus scoileanna speisialta sa chóras saoroideachais acmhainní fisiceacha a cheannach a thacaíonn leis na curaclaim nua Eolaíochta, Teicneolaíochta, Innealtóireachta agus Matamaitice (STEM) agus Ealaíon.

2. Ráta

Ríomhtar deontais mar seo a leanas:

- Íocaíocht sheasta in aghaidh na scoile: €500.00
- Íocaíocht in aghaidh an dalta: €14.03
- Ráta in aghaidh an dalta i scoileanna DEIS/RSO: €16.13

3. Príomhghnéithe an Deontais

Tá an deontas seo faoi chomhair acmhainní agus ábhar a thacaíonn le cur chun feidhme na gcuraclam STEM agus Ealaíon, agus faoina gcomhair sin amháin. Ní chlúdaítear trealamh TFC toisc gurb ann do dheontais ar leith le haghaidh TFC.

Samplaí d'acmhainní agus d'ábhair:

- **STEM:** Scálaí, roth landair, áiritheoirí, geochláir, cártaí ionadluacha, bloic agus cruthanna agus uirlisí le haghaidh turgnamh.
- **Ealaíona:** Péinteanna, canbháis, uirlisí ceoil agus prapaí drámaíochta. Cinntíonn an fócas sin go gcuireann na hacmhainní le heispéiris phraiticiúla foghlama.

4. Maoirseacht Airgeadais

Ba cheart an t-ioncam agus an caiteachas deontais a thaifeadadh mar is cuí i gcuntais na scoile. Ní gá cód ioncaim deontais nua a chur leis an gcairt cuntas.

- **Ioncam Deontais:** Is féidir admháil an deontais a thaifeadadh faoi chód ainmniúil 3170 'Deontas Sainábhair' (Athraíodh an t-ainm Cóid Ainmniúil go "Deontas d'Ábhar Eile" in 2025/2026).
- **Costas Deontais:** Ní gá cód caiteachais nua a chur leis an gcairt. Is féidir an caiteachas a

thaifeadadh faoi chuntas ainmniúil 4490 ‘Costas Ábhair Eile’.

➤ **Deontas gan Chaitheamh:** Caithfear aon mhéid gan chaitheamh a chur san áireamh sa chlár comhardaithe ag deireadh na bliana faoi chód cuntais 2171 ‘Deontais imfhálaithe eile gan chaitheamh’.

Ní mór do scoileanna a chinntiú go gcomhlíontar [Ciorclán 13/2014 ón Roinn Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe – Bainistíocht agus Cuntasacht i leith Deontais ón Státchiste](#).

5. Soláthar

Is ceadmhach do scoileanna na hacmhainní agus na soláthraithe a roghnú is fearr a oireann dá gcuid riachtanas. Agus acmhainní á gceannach acu, ní mór do scoileanna cloí leis na rialacha soláthair phoiblí le luach ar airgead a chinntiú. Moltar 3 mheastachán ar a laghad a fháil agus taifid iomlána a choinneáil le haghaidh iniúchtaí.

Is féidir le scoileanna teagmháil a dhéanamh leis [an Aonad um Sholáthar do Scoileanna](#) le tacaíocht a fháil le cúrsaí soláthair.

6. Ábhar Tagartha

Tá an treoirlíne seo bunaithe ar threoir ón Roinn Oideachais ‘[Deontais do bhunscoileanna chun acmhainní agus ábhair a cheannach chun tacú le cur chun feidhme na gcuraclam Eolaíochta, Teicneolaíochta, Innealtóireachta agus Matamaitice \(STEM\) agus Ealaíon atá i gcuraclam athfhorbartha na mbunscoileanna](#)’.

7. Tuilleadh Eolais

Ba cheart ceist ar bith maidir leis an treoir a chur tríd an ríomhphost chuig an Aonad um Beartas Curaclaim agus Measúnachta ag cap@education.gov.ie.

An tAonad um Sheirbhísí Tacaíochta Airgeadais

Guthán: 01 910 4020

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17 Nollaig 2024