

Math AQ/ABQ Subsidy

Q & A

1. What is the Math AQ/ABQ subsidy?

Starting in April 2014, the Ministry of Education, through the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF), is offering a subsidy to teachers who successfully complete an Additional Qualification (AQ) or Additional Basic Qualification (ABQ) in Mathematics. Undergraduate Math courses that are prerequisite for an AQ or ABQ are also eligible for the subsidy.

2. How much is the subsidy?

The subsidy amount is \$450, regardless of course location or provider, and this amount is paid directly to the teacher on successful completion of the course.

3. Who is eligible for the Math subsidy?

Any OSSTF member who is a qualified teacher employed in Ontario's publicly-funded school system, who successfully completes a Math AQ or Math ABQ, is eligible for a subsidy. In order to receive the subsidy, OTF will need to receive a communication from either the AQ provider or the individual member that includes the following four pieces of information:

- Proof that the AQ has been successfully completed;
- Proof of membership in an Ontario teachers' federation (your Federation membership ID # will suffice);
- A declaration that no other subsidy has been accessed for the course, or if it has, the amount of said subsidy;
- A current mailing address for receiving the subsidy cheque.

OSSTF members who currently hold teacher qualifications who complete an undergraduate Math course that is a prerequisite for a Math AQ or ABQ will also be eligible for a subsidy. To qualify for a subsidy, OTF will need to receive from you:

- Proof that the Math course is a prerequisite for an AQ or ABQ, and has been successfully completed;
- Proof of membership in an Ontario teachers' federation (your Federation membership ID # will suffice);
- A declaration that no other subsidy has been accessed for the course, or if it has, the amount of said subsidy;
- A current mailing address for receiving the subsidy cheque.

4. How will I receive the Math subsidy?

After OTF has received proof of successful completion and other required information identified in question 3 above, we will issue a cheque in your name for \$450, which we will mail to the address provided by you.

5. Are new teacher graduates eligible for the Math subsidy?

Only members who are qualified teachers who are employed in the publicly-funded school system – whether full-time, part-time or occasional – are eligible for the subsidy.

6. Which courses are included in the list of AQs/ABQs that I can take to receive the subsidy?

- Mathematics, Primary and Junior - Part 1
- Mathematics, Primary and Junior - Part 2
- Mathematics, Primary and Junior - Specialist
- Mathematics, Grades 7 and 8
- Mathematics, Intermediate/Senior (ABQ)
- Mathematics, Honours Specialist

7. Where can I take a Math AQ/ABQ or undergraduate course that is eligible for the subsidy?

You can take the above AQs/ABQs with any provider accredited by the Ontario College of Teachers to deliver a Math AQ/ABQ. You can ask the organization to transmit to OTF proof of your successful completion of the course.

Undergraduate courses must be shown to be prerequisites for an AQ or ABQ through a declaration by an AQ/ABQ provider.

8. How long will the Math subsidies be available?

The Ministry of Education has provided a generous but limited amount of funds to enable this subsidy program. We anticipate that 2,960 qualified teachers will be able to access this funding through OTF. The subsidies will be provided on a first come first served basis. This means that we cannot guarantee a subsidy to every teacher who applies, but we will do our best to let you know when the funding is coming to an end.

9. I have already received a subsidy from my school board for the Math AQ/ABQ I am taking. Am I still eligible for the full amount of the subsidy through OTF?

If you have received a subsidy from your school board, you **MUST** let OTF know that this is the case, and you will receive a reduced subsidy. The reduced subsidy from OTF will depend on the amount received from your board. It is understandable that we want to make sure that everyone is eligible for the same subsidized amount and that no one ends up getting more than their fair share.

10. If I receive a subsidy, can I apply for a second subsidy to take another course later in the year?

Priority will be given to teachers who have not previously accessed the subsidy for a Math AQ, ABQ or undergraduate prerequisite course. That said it may be possible to access a second subsidy later in the year if there are sufficient funds still available.