



## **Policy to review the requests of previously awarded projects to align with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator**

**POLICY STATEMENT:** The Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) recognizes the importance of aligning capital outlay projects with the most current standards to ensure equitable and efficient use of public funds. Therefore, the PSCOC authorizes the review and potential adjustment of previously awarded projects to align with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator under the conditions below.

**Purpose:** To ensure consistency, equity, and fiscal responsibility in the application of the revised Statewide Adequacy Standards, including the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator, this policy outlines the conditions under which previously awarded projects may be reviewed and adjusted.

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### **Definitions:**

1. Statewide Adequacy Standards: tool used to assess every school building against the same set of minimum requirements.
2. Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator: tool used to determine the maximum building size (in gross square feet) for a school based on student enrollment and ensures the facilities meet the minimum educational adequacy standards.
3. Previously awarded projects: capital outlay projects that have already received funding approval from the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) for a Standards-Based Project that are currently still in the design phase.

### **Eligibility for Review:**

- Projects awarded prior to the adoption of the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator but not yet in construction.
- Previously awarded projects may request an increase in traditional eligible space within the new calculator total.
- Previously awarded projects awarded in 2023-2024 may request to use the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator to adjust academic and gym/community and bleacher space within the total allowable square footage but cannot be increased at the expense of traditional academic space.

**Review Process:**

- Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) staff will conduct a comparative analysis of the original award against the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.
- Districts will be required to submit updated project documentation reflecting current needs and design specifications.
- Requested increase in square footage will be evaluated and must adhere to the Adequacy Planning Guide (APG).

**Adjustment Criteria:**

- Adjustments in square footage will be considered only if they do not compromise educational adequacy or program delivery.
- Space in excess of what the Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator allows would be the responsibility of the school district.
- Projects awarded prior to 2023 that include requests for gymnasium or community space exceeding the minimum requirements outlined in the Statewide Adequacy Standards may seek alignment with the updated Maximum Allowable Gross Square Foot Calculator.
- Requests to receive any additional square footage based on the recent APG update (July 2025) must adhere to this policy.

**Timeline:**

- The deadline for school districts to submit their requests for revisions to previously awarded square footage is October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.
- The final date for the PSCOC to review and approve these requests will be the November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 PSCOC meeting.