

Ohio School Facilities Commission

The Ohio School Facilities Commission administers the state's K-12 public school construction program. The agency helps school districts fund, plan, design, and build or renovate schools.

The commission was created in 1997 to oversee the rebuilding of Ohio's public schools. Previously, state school construction projects were administered by the Ohio Department of Education.

OSFC serves as a funding partner for school districts to finance their school construction projects. Beginning with the poorest districts in the state, the program is designed to provide different levels of state funding assistance to districts depending on their wealth.

OSFC will first evaluate the condition of the district's existing classroom facilities. The OSFC Planning Group develops two key documents:

- * an existing facilities condition report (assessment)
- * student enrollment projections

With this information, meaningful facilities planning can be done. Master facilities plans are the product of a partnership planning effort between the school district and the OSFC.

Developing a district-wide master facilities plan is a key first step in making classroom facilities improvements. It is imperative for school districts to have a sound overall long-range plan for all school facilities prior to focusing on any one building.

Districts are offered funding through OSFC's comprehensive building program in order depending on wealth. Districts are ranked from one to 614 each year by the Ohio Department of Education using a formula that is based on a three-year adjusted valuation per pupil (which relates largely to property wealth). Lowest wealth districts are served first. Depending on the district's assessed property valuation per pupil, the district will pay a share of the total project cost.

(All information condensed from OSFC web site)