

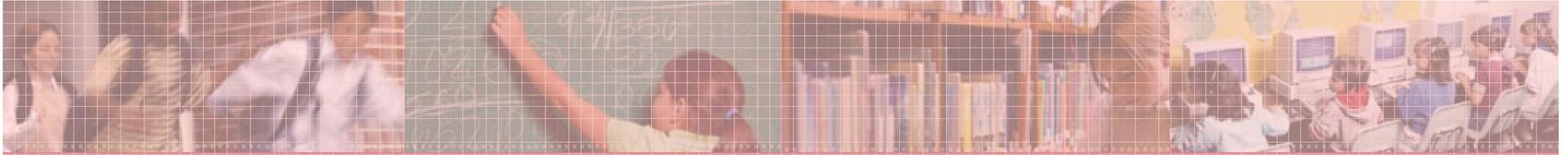


The New Jersey Department of Education

Overview of

# Grant Program

for School Facilities Projects  
in Regular Operating Districts



## School Facilities Grant Program

- \$3.9 billion total
- \$2.9 billion for SDA Districts
- \$1 billion for RODs, including \$50 million for vocational schools



## ROD Grant Program

### **Major changes!**

- Project eligibility requirements
- Prioritization process
- Fixed allocations and submission deadlines
- Funding limit for each allocation



## Project Eligibility and Prioritization

To be considered for grant funding,  
project scope must be

**100% eligible for state support**

and

**included in at least one of three  
prioritization "levels."**

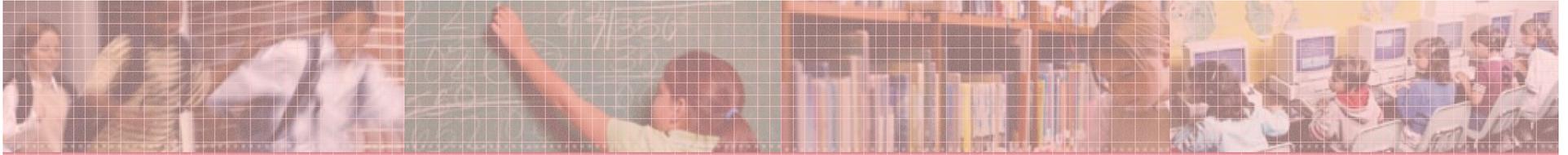


# Project Eligibility and Prioritization

## Level 1

*Critical operational needs and program mandates*

- Emergent projects
- Essential building system upgrades
- Building skin
- Building code issues
- ADA upgrades
- Hazardous materials abatement
- Security and communications systems
- Site drainage
- Elementary school playgrounds
- Renovated/new early childhood classrooms
- Special population needs

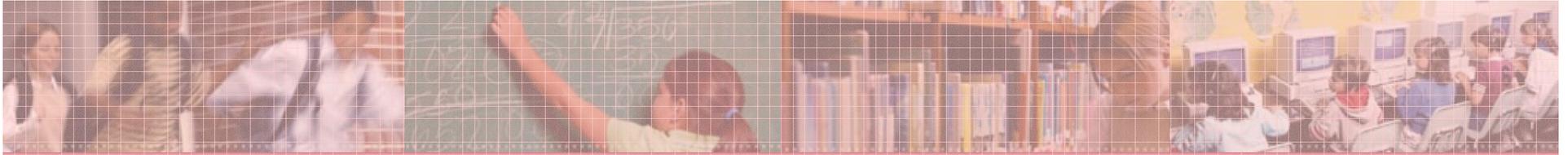


# Project Eligibility and Prioritization

## Level 2

*Renewal of existing buildings, overcrowding, and improving quality of existing instructional spaces*

- Repair/replacement of existing building systems and components not included in Level 1
- Existing site upgrades, excluding athletic fields and tracks
- Renovation and/or new construction of capacity-generating classrooms to address overcrowding or substandard conditions
- Technology infrastructure upgrades



# Project Eligibility and Prioritization

## Level 3

*Major projects that include renovation and/or new construction*

### **Projects ranked according to:**

- District-wide unhoused students and overcrowding
- Early childhood program accommodations
- FES compliance
- Use of temporary or leased facilities
- Building age
- Project scope
- Prior grant funding



## Project Eligibility and Prioritization

- Lower priority level applied if project scope spans multiple levels
- Funding of all priority levels in a particular allocation dependent upon demand



## Project Eligibility and Prioritization

*If project does not meet criteria to be considered for grant funding:*

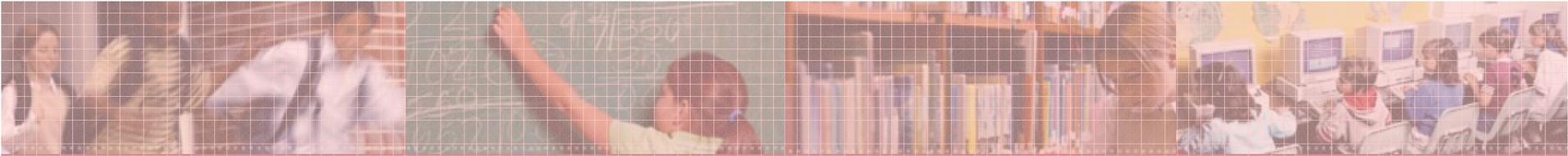
- District can request debt service funding for eligible scope; or
- Revise scope of work and resubmit.



## Project Eligibility and Prioritization

*If project met criteria for consideration but is not selected to receive grant funding:*

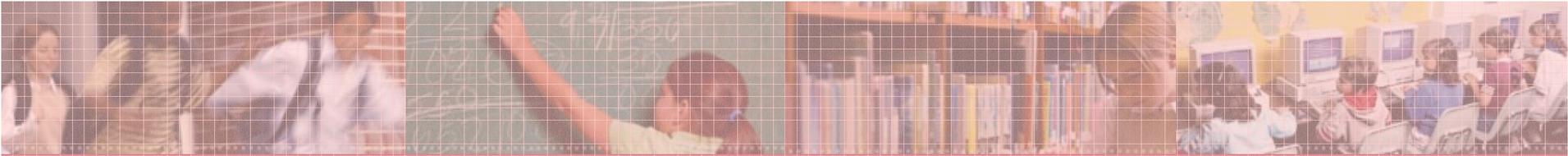
- District can hold and resubmit project for next grant funding allocation; or
- Request debt service aid.



## Timelines

### **Two first year allocations scheduled**

- Coordinate with April 2009 and September 2009 referenda
- Open to all project types
- \$200 million maximum for first allocation
- Subsequent allocations to be planned around September referenda with at least one allocation per year



# Timelines

## Allocation 1

*For April 2009 (or later) referendum and non-referendum projects*

**November 20, 2008:** District application deadline

**January 15, 2009:** Latest date for Department to issue preliminary approval and grant funding determination

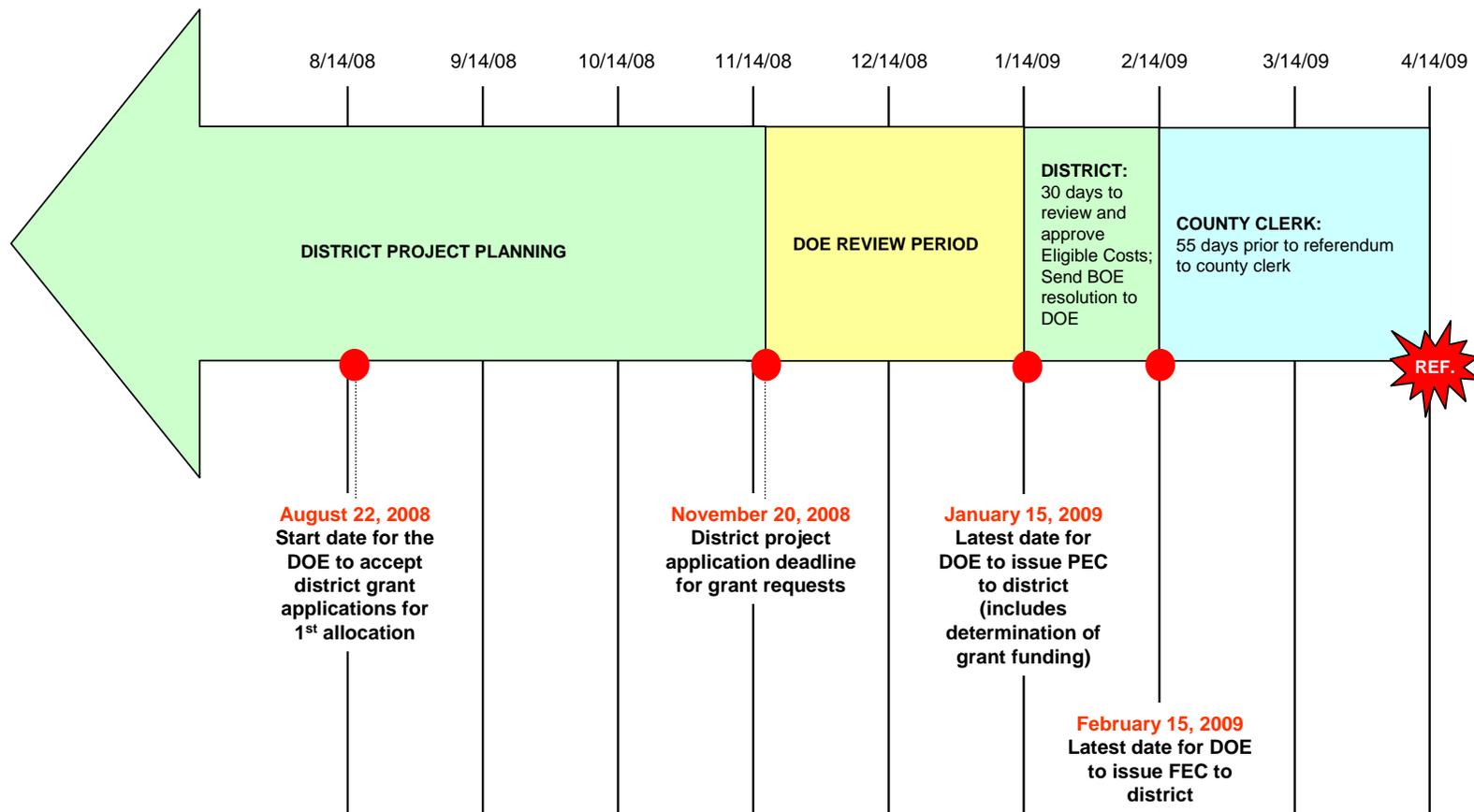
**February 15, 2009:** Latest date for Department to issue final approval pending receipt of District BOE resolution accepting preliminary approval.



# Timelines

## Allocation 1

*For April 2009 (or later) referendum and non-referendum projects*





## Timelines

### Allocation 2

*For all referendum dates prior to September 2010 and summer 2009 projects*

**January 31, 2009:** District application deadline

**March 2009:** Release of approval letters for Level 1 non-referendum work

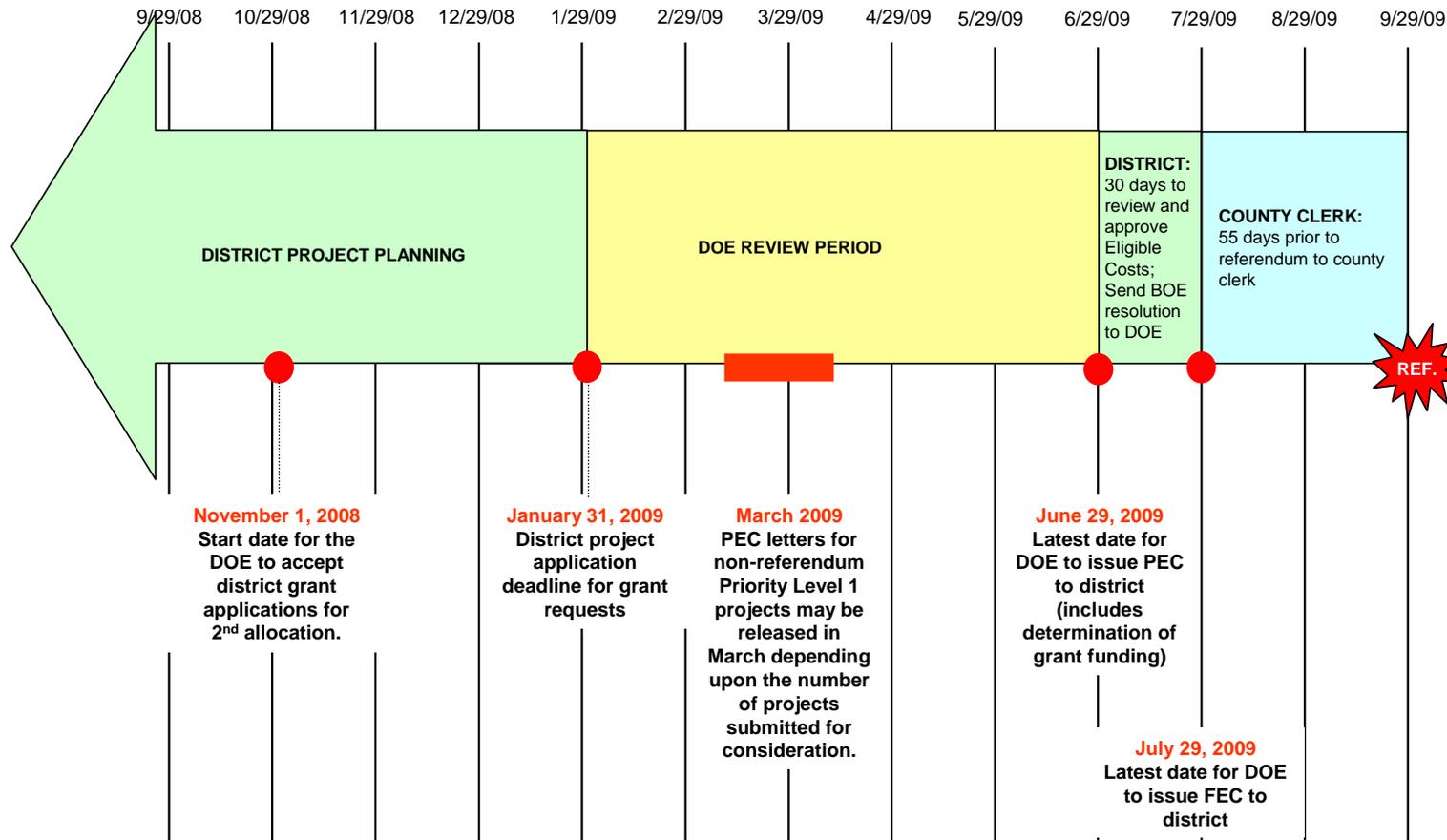
**June 29, 2009:** Latest date for Department to issue preliminary approval and grant funding determination

**July 29, 2009:** Latest date for Department to issue final approval pending receipt of District BOE resolution accepting preliminary approval.

# Timelines

## Allocation 2

*For all referendum dates prior to September 2010 and summer 2009 projects*





## Timelines

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

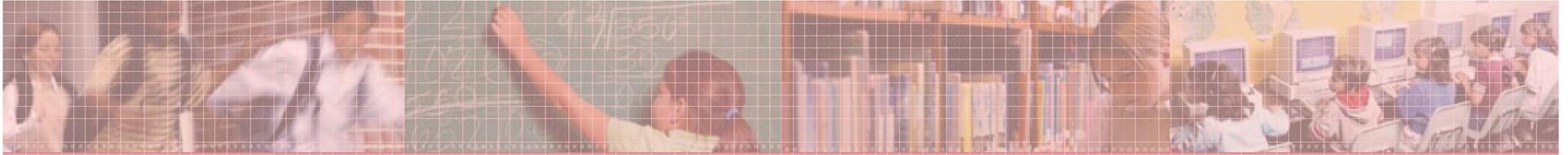
**Districts must adhere to submission deadline.**

**Submission must be complete.**



## District Notification

- Preliminary review to assess scope eligibility.
- District immediately notified if project scope is not included in one of the priority levels.
- Level 1 project approvals and funding determination may be released early.
- All Level 2 and Level 3 approvals released at same time to allow prioritization if grant request exceeds allocation.



## Projects in the Pipeline

### **No retroactive provisions.**

If a project has been approved by the Department and a contract has been awarded by the district to complete the work, the district cannot apply for retroactive grant funding for the project.



## Projects in the Pipeline

*If a district has submitted a project to the Department that it would like considered for grant funding:*

---

**If submitted but not approved:** Contact the Office of School Facilities (OSF).

---

**If previously approved as an "Other Capital" project and no contract awarded:** Cancel project and resubmit a new project application.

---

**If previously approved for debt service funding and no contract awarded:** Cancel project and resubmit a new project application if district accepted preliminary eligible costs OR contact the OSF to request grant funding if district has not accepted preliminary eligible costs.

---