

HOME EDUCATION

Background

The Division recognizes that Home Education is approved by Alberta Education and therefore the Division may approve a home education program when requested by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a student.

Guidelines

1. For this administrative procedure, home education students will be considered as those resident students who are taking a Division approved home education program under the direction and supervision of their parents or legal guardians.
2. The Division will not supervise home education programs for students who are not resident students of the school division.
3. A “blended home education program” is an educational program where a teacher employed by a school authority is responsible for the delivery and evaluation of courses amounting to:
 - a) at least 50% of the student’s program in grades 1 - 9.
 - b) at least 20% of the student’s program in grades 10 - 12.
4. Students taking a program through Livingstone Range Virtual School are classified as regular students and are not considered to be on a home education program.
5. Overall responsibility for the home education program is assigned to the Superintendent or Designate. The direct supervision of students taking a home education program will be the responsibility of school-appointed Home Education Coordinators.
6. The Home Education Coordinator will provide professional assistance in developing the home education plan for parents.

Procedures

1. A parent or legal guardian who intends to provide a home education program for a student during a school year must notify the supervising school using the prescribed notification forms.
 - a. To initiate a new home education program, Alberta Education, Home Education, Notification form, Parts A, and B must be completed and forwarded to the supervising school.
 - b. To continue a home education program during the next school year, an updated, Part A and B notification form must be submitted to the supervising school.

2. The supervising school that has been notified by a parent using the appropriate notification form must reply in writing to the parents in the prescribed form, not more than 15 days after the date that the school was notified. Part C of the notification forms can be used to respond to the parent.
3. A decision made by a school-based Home Education Coordinator to decline an application for a home education program may be appealed to the Superintendent or Designate.
4. Following approval of a home education program, the parents or guardians of the child will be expected to complete the following additional forms included in this policy:
 - a. School Registration Form on a one-time only basis, and
 - b. a Home Education Agreement Form on an annual basis.
5. Section 7 of the *Alberta Education Home Education Regulations 145/2006* outlines the manner in which the 50% parent portion of the student grant monies may be utilized.
6. A parent and the supervising school must ensure that a student at a level equivalent to grades 6, and 9:
 - a. is given the opportunity to write the Grade 6 and Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests at the time designed by the Minister, or
 - b. undergoes an alternative evaluation that reflects standards similar to the standards in the provincial achievement tests and that meets the student learning outcomes prescribed in the regulations.
7. The supervising school for a home education program must:
 - a. facilitate student learning by providing assistance and advice to the parent in establishing the program;
 - b. assign coordinators to home education who are supportive of home educating parents and students, and who are informed on the special characteristics of tutorial learning;
 - c. provide for and maintain records of the evaluation progress of the student;
 - d. arrange for the Home Education Coordinator to conduct at least two evaluations in each school year, including a review of the student portfolio with the parent;
 - e. ensure that students at the equivalent grade level have an opportunity to complete assessments at the Grades 6 and Grade 9 levels as outlined in procedure 6 in the foregoing; and
 - f. notify the parent of any limitations a particular program choice may have on a student earning high school credits and being eligible to write grade 12 diploma examinations.
8. Records of student achievements and assessments will be maintained in the school supervising the home education program. Evaluation/progress reports and final reports shall be forwarded to the office of the Superintendent or Designate by the school-based home education coordinator.
9. A home education program offered by a parent must:
 - a. be prescribed, authorized or approved by the Minister under Section 18(a), 18(d) or 18(e) of *The Education Act* or
 - b. comply with the program certified by the parent and accepted by the supervising school.

10. A parent who provides a home education program must:
 - a. develop, administer and manage the home education program,
 - b. evaluate the progress of the student at regular intervals, by
 - i) maintaining a portfolio of student work and a general record of student activities, and
 - ii) maintaining a record of the method and times of evaluation of the progress of the student and the levels of achievement attained by the student,
 - c. be available for a regular review of the student's achievement with the supervising school at a time and place mutually agreeable to the parent and the supervising school, and
 - d. ensure that the student is available in order that the supervising school may evaluate the progress of the student.

11. A parent may terminate a home education program:
 - a. by providing a notice in writing to the supervising school respecting the termination of the home education program, and
 - b. by enrolling the student in a school operated by a board or private school.

12. A supervising school may recommend to Superintendent or Designate during the school year, that a home education program be terminated. The recommendation for termination must:
 - a. contain reasons for termination,
 - b. be made in consultation with the parents,
 - c. give due consideration to the age, grade level, and abilities of the student, and
 - d. take into account the student evaluations made by the supervising school.

13. The Superintendent or Designate may terminate a home education program by providing a notice in writing to the parent if:
 - a. it is deemed that the student is not progressing toward the standards of education set by the Minister, or
 - b. the parent providing the home education program has not met the requirements of *Home Education Regulation 145/2006*.

14. The termination of a home education program by the Superintendent or Designate may be appealed to the Appeal Committee of the Board of Trustees in accordance with *Board Policy 14: Appeals Regarding Student Matters*. A decision of the Appeal Committee made under the home education regulations may be reviewed by the Minister in accordance with ~~Section 43~~ [section 124](#) of the ~~School~~ [School Education Act](#).

15. Participation on school athletic teams:
 - a. Participation of Home Education Students on school athletic teams is at the discretion of the School Principal.
 - b. The Home Education Student must reside in the attendance area of the school in which the student wishes to participate
 - c. The Student must comply with all applicable eligibility requirements of the School and of the Alberta Schools Athletic Association.

Updates:

December 2003, July 2008, July 2011, November 2016, March 2017, October 2017, April 2020

References:

Education Act Sections 18, 43

Home Education Regulation 89/2019