



Home education handbook

Understanding choices and responsibilities

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Home education program options

Home education is an approach to educating a student where parents are responsible for making key education decisions. Parents or guardians choosing a home education program for their child assume the primary responsibility for their child's education. In accordance with the [Home Education Regulation](#), parents are responsible for planning, managing, providing, evaluating and supervising their children's courses of study. They must develop a home education program that enables the student to achieve appropriate learning outcomes.

In Alberta, parents or guardians of children in Grades 1 to 12¹ may choose one of two types of home education programs:

1. A home education program that *is supervised* by a willing public, separate or francophone school board or accredited funded independent (private) school, and *eligible for funding*, OR
2. A home education program that is *not supervised* by a school board or accredited funded independent (private) school and is *not eligible for funding*.

This handbook provides information related to parents' choices and responsibilities specific to these two home education options. Its primary intent is to support parents and guardians in making informed decisions respecting the education of their children. Unless otherwise indicated, the information applies to both home education program options described above.

Note: Alberta's government is launching a home education kindergarten pilot for the 2023-24 school year.

The home education kindergarten pilot is available to parents choosing a home education program that is supervised by a school authority. Roles and responsibilities for the home education kindergarten pilot are aligned with those outlined in this handbook unless otherwise indicated.

To be eligible for funding, kindergarten students must be:

- *at least four years and eight months old, and no older than six on September 1 of the year they are to start kindergarten*
- *a resident of Alberta*
- *registered with a supervising school authority before September 29, 2023*

Parents or guardians interested in pursuing home education kindergarten are encouraged to seek out a supervising school authority and register with them before September 29, 2023.

¹ Kindergarten is an optional program in Alberta. Parents can opt out of sending their children to Kindergarten.

Notification

When a parent makes an educational choice for their child, it is typically for the school year. Every year that a parent chooses home education, they must notify either a school authority (public, separate or francophone school board or an accredited funded independent school) or the Minister of Education of their intent. A parent may start a home education program at any time during the school year. However, a home education program that is supervised by a school authority requires the consent of a school board or accredited funded independent school.

Supervised by a school authority

A parent choosing to provide a home education program with the supervision of a school authority must notify a willing school board or independent school of their choice by completing the notification form available on the [Home Education page](#) of Alberta.ca.

A school board or accredited funded independent school that consents to supervise a home education program is identified as an associate board or associate independent school. A parent may choose any associate board or associate independent (independent) school in Alberta that is willing to supervise a home education program. It is important to note that school authorities in Alberta are not required to supervise home education programs, even for their resident students.

In order for the home education program to qualify for funding, the student must be enrolled in a home education program supervised by a school authority by September 29 of that school year. Enrolment is documented in the provincial database, the Provincial Approach to Student Information (PASI). Parents may wish to explore potential supervising school authorities in the spring prior to the start of the next school year, including researching each school authority's deadlines for parent submission of a home education notification. As per the [Home Education Regulation](#), a school authority has 15 school days to notify the parent of their decision with respect to supervising or continuing to supervise the home education program.

Not supervised by a school authority

A parent choosing to provide a home education program without the supervision of a school authority must notify the Minister of Education of their choice by completing and mailing in the notification form that can be downloaded from the [Home Education page](#) of Alberta.ca, or through an online form in PASI, accessible in [myPass](#). *Note: Parents are only required to notify the Minister of their intent to provide home education without the supervision of a school authority if their child is older than six years of age and younger than 16 years of age on September 1.*

Information for each student is stored in PASI. This simplifies the notification process for parents choosing this home education option in subsequent years.

Once parents have submitted their notification form to the Minister, the form is processed, the relevant information is entered into PASI and parents are notified that the form has been processed. A user guide to completing the online notification form through myPass is available on the [Home Education page](#) of Alberta.ca.

Parent responsibilities

Each year, parents choosing home education must:

- submit a notification of their intent to provide a home education program;
- develop a home education program for each student that enables that student to achieve applicable learning outcomes, which may be updated throughout the year as the parent deems necessary;
- select activities to be focused on in the year that will enable the student to achieve the applicable outcomes;
- administer and manage the home education program;
- conduct an evaluation of the progress of the student at regular intervals and maintain a record of the methods and dates of those evaluations; and
- maintain dated samples of student work and a general record of the student's activities.

Supervised by a school authority

The parent must:

- submit their notification to a school board or accredited funded independent (private) school; and
 - submit a written description of the home education program if following the Schedule of Learning Outcomes for Students Receiving Home Education Programs That Do Not Follow the Alberta Programs of Study, located in the [Home Education Regulation](#); (contact the school authority for their submission timelines)
- be available for a regular review of the student's achievement with the associate board or associate independent school, at a time and place that is mutually agreed upon; and
 - ensure that the student is available, in the presence of the parent, if the parent chooses to be present, in order that the associate board or associate independent school may conduct an evaluation of the progress of the student at least twice a year.

Not supervised by a school authority

The parent must:

- submit their notification to the Minister of Education.

School authority responsibilities

In accepting a parent's home education notification form, an associate board or associate independent school must:

- review the completed notification form and inform the parent of their decision within 15 school days of receiving the parent's request;
- facilitate student learning by offering assistance and advice to parents;
- assign a certificated teacher or teachers to home education that are supportive of parents and students in home education programs;
- provide parents with access to a copy of all policies of the associate board or associate independent school respecting the supervision of students in the programs and notify parents of any changes in those policies;
- advise parents of the services and resources of the associate board or associate independent school that are available for use by the parents and students;
- provide for and maintain student records (as per Section 56 of the [Education Act](#) and the [Student Record Regulation](#)) and advise parents:
 - that they may review those records; and
 - entries made in the records relating to the progress of the student;
- notify the student's resident board that the student is enrolled in a home education program that is supervised by a school authority;
- arrange for a teacher employed by the associate board or associate independent school to conduct at least two evaluations of the progress of the student in each school year and advise the student's parent as to the progress of the student;
- ensure that a student is given the opportunity to write applicable provincial assessments;
- make recommendations to the student's parents on any matter that may assist the student in attaining a higher level of achievement, where necessary;
- notify the parents of any implications that a supervised home education program may have on the student's eligibility to be granted high school credits; and
- offer the parents funding for eligible expenses to support the home education program (refer to section on funding consideration for further information).

A certificated teacher employed by an associate board or an associate independent school that is assigned to support a home education program must follow legislation, policy, standards, orders and codes, including Alberta's [Teaching Quality Standard](#) as it applies to the context of a home education program.

A principal employed by an associate board or an associate independent school that has agreed to supervise a home education program must follow legislation, policy, standards, orders and codes, including Alberta's [Teaching Quality Standard](#) and [Leadership Quality Standard](#) as they apply to the context of a home education program.

Student record

School authorities in Alberta are responsible for establishing and managing official student records for students enrolled in their schools, in accordance with the [Student Record Regulation](#). Students and parents of students under the age of 18 are entitled to review their child's student record, as outlined in Section 56 of the [Education Act](#).

If a student record has been established, it remains with the previous Alberta school authority until another Alberta school authority requests it, or until it has reached the retention period required by the [Student Record Regulation](#) and is disposed of accordingly. Parents home educating their child and wanting to access their child's student record should contact their associate board or associate independent school, or, if home educating without the supervision of school authority, they should contact their child's last school authority. Parents wanting a copy of their child's student record must submit a request for a copy of the student record, along with any associated fee to the associate board, associate independent school or their child's last school authority.

Student with disabilities or other specialized learning needs

When a parent/guardian chooses to provide a home education program for a child, they have the responsibility to meet their child's educational needs, including their special education needs. Parents of all home education students, including students who have an identified need for additional supports for their education program can access supports and services from professionals, including speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists and behaviour specialists. Parents can learn more about these supports, and how to access them, on [The Association of Independent Schools & Colleges in Alberta website](#).

The school authority would assume the responsibility to provide the specialized support or service if required for a student in a shared responsibility program. For more information, please see the [Home Education page](#) of Alberta.ca.

Learning resources and supports

Parents choosing to home educate have the primary responsibility for the education of their children. They are responsible for planning, managing, providing, evaluating and supervising their children's courses of study. Parents may involve other individuals to support instruction. Individuals providing instruction to a home education student do not have to be certificated teachers but must comply with all relevant legislation, policy, standards, orders and codes for the service they provide.

Parents are able to choose resources they deem appropriate to assist their child's learning. Where licensing agreements and terms of use permit, all parents have access to public resources on the [new LearnAlberta website](#). These resources may be searched by grade, subject area, language, audience, media format or resource type. Due to licensing agreements, some resources are only accessible by certificated teachers employed by or registered with a school authority.

Supervised by a school authority

The associate board or associate independent school must advise a parent of the services and resources of the associate board or associate independent school that are available for use by the parents and students.

Access to Distance/Online Education Courses for Funded Home Education Students

Home Education students have access to one Alberta distance/online education high school course (up to 5 credits) per school year. This can be either with their supervising school authority or with another funded school authority in Alberta, provided there are sufficient resources and facilities available to accommodate the student. Information is available in the *Funding Manual for School Authorities*.

Not supervised by a school authority

Parents choosing to home educate their child without the supervision of a school authority cannot access Distance/Online Education Courses.

Funding considerations

Supervised by a school authority

Parents providing a home education program that is supervised by a school authority are eligible to receive 50 per cent of the home education grant, if an associate board or associate independent school has accepted the parent's home education notification form by September 29. Parents have up to two years to access the parental portion of the home education funding.

An associate board or associate independent school is not provided funding for home education programs that are accepted after September 29. This includes situations where a student changes from an online or regular program to home education program after September 29.

Submissions for reimbursement and the supervising school authorities' approvals must be consistent with the [Home Education Regulation](#).

A parent who receives funding must:

- use the funding only to defray the costs incurred by the parent for programs of study, instructional materials or other resources related to the home education program; and
- provide the associate board or associate independent school with receipts showing how the funding was spent.

A parent who receives funding must not use the funding:

- as a form of personal remuneration; or
- to pay for travel costs or other expenses usually required to be paid by a parent of a student who is enrolled in a school operated by a school board or in an independent school.

To determine whether a cost or expense is reimbursable, an associate board or associate independent school may refer to the [Standards for Home Education Reimbursement](#). Supervising school authorities may also develop their own policy for reimbursement, so long as it does not contravene the *Standards for Home Education Reimbursement* or the *Home Education Regulation*. Policies should be shared with parents at the beginning of each school year.

Parents are allowed to transfer some or the entire unused parental portion of the home education funding to the associate school authority for education supports should they choose to. If parents decide to transfer their funding, they will be required to sign a [Parent Declaration Form](#) to facilitate this transfer. If, at the end of the second year the parent has not transferred the unused portion of funding to the associate school authority, the remaining funds will be directed back to Alberta Education.

School authorities are not permitted to provide funding to students or families if the student is enrolled with the school authority in an online program, a print-based distance education program or a regular school program.

Not supervised by a school authority

Parents choosing to home educate their child without the supervision of a school authority are not eligible to receive funding.

Learning outcomes

For each student being home educated, the parent must develop a home education program that enables the student to achieve the applicable outcomes. Parents providing a home education program may choose to follow the outcomes in:

- the Alberta [programs of study](#) that identify what students are expected to learn and do in all subjects and grades,
- the *Schedule of Learning Outcomes for Students Receiving Home Education Programs That Do Not Follow the Alberta Programs of Study*, (SOLO) located within the [Home Education Regulation](#), or
- a combination of learning outcomes from the above two options.

Parents should discuss with their supervising school authority any questions they have related to learning plans and outcomes.

Supervised by a school authority

For any part of a home education program that is supervised by a school authority and does not follow the Alberta curriculum (programs of study), the parent must provide to the associate board or associate independent school a description of the program that includes:

- a list of the activities selected by the parent and an explanation as to how those activities will enable the student to achieve the applicable outcomes;
- the instructional methods and resources to be used;
- the means of conducting evaluations of the student's progress; and
- the name of the person instructing the home education program, if not the parent.

A teacher employed by the associate board or associate independent school must at the request of a parent, advise and provide assistance to the parent in the preparation of the written description of a home education program that does not follow the Alberta curriculum (programs of study). The associate board or associate independent school that will supervise the program must accept the program, including the selection of activities, in the form and manner approved by the Minister.

A parent who has provided a description of their home education program may alter the program and must notify the associate board or associate independent school of any significant changes to the program.

Not supervised by a school authority

A parent who chooses to provide a home education program that is not supervised by a school authority must develop the home education program with the learning outcomes above, but is not required to submit a description of the program to the Minister.

Assessment of learning

All parents providing a home education program have responsibilities with respect to regularly evaluating their child's learning. A parent providing a home education program to a student must maintain dated samples of student work and a general record of the student's activities; the parent must also conduct an evaluation of the progress of the student at regular intervals and maintain a record of the methods and dates of those evaluations.

- A supervising school authority may ask the parent to provide these records when conducting their regular evaluations.
- Parents providing a home education program that is not supervised by a school authority may be required to submit these records to the Ministry should there be an investigation.

Supervised by a school authority

The associate board or associate independent school must conduct at least two evaluations of the progress of the student in each school year and make recommendations to the student's parent on any matter that may assist the student in attaining a higher level of achievement, where necessary.

The associate board or associate independent school must also ensure that a student is given the opportunity to write applicable provincial assessments and are encouraged to act as a writing centre for students within their geographical region or coordinate with a writing centre on behalf of students.

Parents should discuss with their supervising school authority any questions that they have related to assessment.

Provincial achievement tests

Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) provide information to parents on their child's learning in relation to the provincial programs of study. An associate board or associate independent school must ensure that a student in a supervised home education program is given the opportunity to write the Grade 6 and Grade 9 PATs. Parents cannot administer these tests, however, they can decide which subject area tests, if any, their child will write. Information regarding the administration of these exams for home education students can be found in the [General Information Bulletin](#) posted on the Alberta.ca website.

Parents should discuss with their supervising school authority options for writing centres in their area.

Diploma exams

Alberta's diploma exams assess many of the outcomes set out in the provincial programs of study. Any student in a supervised home education program may write a high school diploma exam in a school or at a provincial writing centre. The diploma exam mark achieved will stand-alone and will not result in an official course mark unless accompanied by a school awarded mark and a recommendation for credit by a high school principal. An official course mark requires both a school awarded mark and a diploma exam mark, unless the student writes the exam as a mature student as defined in the [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12](#).

Arrangements to write diploma exams should be made well in advance of the writing date by contacting the associate school board or associate independent school for assistance. Once a writing centre has been agreed upon, the student can self-register using [myPass](#). If further assistance is required, students can contact Exam Administration at exam.admin@gov.ab.ca or 780-643-9157 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000).

Reporting of provincial achievement test and diploma exam results

Alberta Education provides results to each school authority for their students in home education programs who write PATs and diploma exams. Associate boards and associate independent schools are not required to report publicly on the results for students in home education programs but if they do, they can only publicly share aggregate results of a cohort of six students or more.

PAT results (individual student profiles) are available to the parents of the home education student and staff of the supervising school authority. In early fall, students who wrote Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in the past school year receive their official results in the form of an Individual Student Profile (ISP) report. Schools keep a copy of the ISP in the student's education record. Parents receive ISP reports in one of 3 ways:

- ISP reports are sent electronically by schools to parents.
- ISP reports are printed and mailed to parents by schools.
- Parents can access ISP reports directly through myPass once their school has set up their account.

For diploma exams, the detailed academic report is available to the student and the student's parents, as well as teachers employed by the associate board or associate independent school to supervise the home education program. Students have access to their own diploma exam results through [myPass](#).

For additional information about [Provincial Achievement Tests](#) including their administration and results reporting or for more information about [Diploma Exams](#) including their administration and results reporting, access on Alberta.ca.

Not Supervised by a school authority

A student in a home education program that is not supervised by a school authority may not write Provincial Achievement Tests, and can only write Diploma exams as a mature student.

High school graduation requirements, credentials and credits

Some home education students may be interested in attaining recognition of high school completion with an Alberta Education diploma or certificate. Alberta Education diplomas and certificates certify that the holder has successfully completed a prescribed program of instruction. Alberta awards a number of diplomas and certificates, including:

- the Alberta High School Diploma,
- Certificate of High School Achievement
- Certificate of School Completion
- High School Equivalency Diploma

These are the only provincially recognized diplomas and certificates. Additional information about high school graduation requirements, credentials and credits is available at the [Graduation requirements, credentials and credits page](#) of Alberta.ca.

Mature Students

The [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12](#) outlines the requirements for a mature student to receive an Alberta High School Diploma or Certificate of High School Achievement. Students who meet eligibility requirements for mature student status may earn credits by successfully completing a course and/or a diploma exam without having completed the required prerequisite courses. They are also eligible to receive an Alberta High School Diploma or the Certificate of High School Achievement if they complete the requirements.

Anyone who meets eligibility requirements to achieve a High School Equivalency Diploma may do so by either accumulating 100 credits or writing five (5) General Educational Development (GED) tests. Detailed information about the General Educational Development (eligibility, how to accumulate credits, and where one can write the tests), can be found on the [High School Equivalency Diploma page](#) of Alberta.ca.

Alberta Education encourages students to sign up with [myPass](#), allowing students and parents to view their progress towards achieving an Alberta high school credential.

Supervised by a school authority

An associate board or associate independent school must notify and discuss with parents any implications that a home education plan may have on the student's eligibility to earn high school credits and to write diploma exams. Parents should discuss with their supervising school authority any questions specific to their child's learning plan or diploma eligibility.

High school credits

A student in a home education program that is supervised by a school authority may earn high school credits by completing the course in a school or completing an off-campus education program (both through Shared Responsibility). Off-campus education programming for high school credit includes Career Internship, Green Certificate Program, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Work Experience, and Workplace Readiness and Workplace Practicum. More information about off-campus education programs can be found on the [Off-campus education page](#) of Alberta.ca.

The main way for students in a home education program (not in a shared responsibility program) to earn credits is through course challenges. One exception is the access to one distance/online high school course.

Course Challenges

A course challenge is a formal assessment process facilitated by a school. Alberta Education awards credits to students on the recommendation of a school principal upon successful completion of a course challenge. Not every high school course is available for course challenge (e.g. Off-Campus Education Programs) and schools are not obligated to facilitate course challenges. As well, each school authority has a policy that governs the administration of course challenges in the senior high schools under the jurisdiction of that school authority. Additional information about course challenge is available in the [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12](#).

Access to Distance/Online Education Courses for Funded Home Education Students

Home Education students have access to one distance/online education high school course (up to 5 credits) per school year. This can either be with their supervising school authority or with another funded school authority in Alberta, provided there are sufficient resources and facilities available to accommodate the student.

Diploma exams

Alberta's diploma exams assess many of the outcomes set out in the provincial programs of study. Any student in a supervised home education program may write a high school diploma exam in a school or at a provincial writing centre. The diploma exam mark achieved will stand-alone and will not result in an official course mark unless accompanied by a school awarded mark and a recommendation for credit by a high school principal. An official course mark requires both a school awarded mark and a diploma exam mark, unless the student writes the exam as a mature student as defined in the [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12](#).

Arrangements to write diploma exams should be made well in advance of the writing date by contacting the associate school board or associate independent school for assistance. Once a writing centre has been agreed upon, the student can self-register using [myPass](#). If further assistance is required, students can contact Exam Administration at exam.admin@gov.ab.ca or 780-643-9157 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000).

High school diploma and certificate of high school achievement

Home education students supervised by an associate board or associate independent school may earn an Alberta High School Diploma by successfully earning 100 credits in required course areas (refer to section above on earning high school credits). The [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12](#) outlines all the requirements for being awarded an [Alberta High School Diploma](#) or a [Certificate of High School Achievement](#).

Not supervised by a school authority

A student who completes their high school through a home education program that is not supervised by a school authority has no affiliation with an accredited school. Therefore, they may only seek to earn high school credits and recognition of high school completion as a mature student. Additional information about mature students can be found on the [Mature students page](#) of Alberta.ca.

Transitioning to post-secondary and world of work

Transcripts

The Alberta Transcript of High School Achievement is the official record of student achievement. It contains the highest marks and credits awarded to a student. Transcripts include a report of coursework completed in Alberta accredited and out-of-province schools, General Educational Development (GED) courses and marks, diploma exam marks, and credits awarded. Employers and post-secondary institutions often require an Alberta High School Transcript. Alberta Education maintains transcripts for all high school students. Information about transcripts is available on the [Student information and high school transcripts page](#) of Alberta.ca.

Post-secondary admissions

The completion of an Alberta high school credential does not guarantee admission to a post-secondary institution. Home education students are encouraged to review the admission requirements of each institution. [Alberta Advanced Education's website](#) provides useful information.

Ending a home education program

Supervised by a school authority

Home education parents and associate school boards or associate independent schools must enter into a formal agreement for each school year of the home education program. However, in some circumstances, either the parent or the associate board or independent school may end the agreement during the school year.

Parent decision to end a home education program

When the parent decides to end the home education agreement, the parent must provide written notice to the associate board or associate independent school; and

- enrol the student in a school operated by a school board or in an independent school, or in a home education program supervised by another associate school board or associate independent school (does not apply to home education kindergarten pilot); or
- notify the Minister that they wish to provide a home education program without the supervision of a school authority.

Where a student enrolls in a school board or in an independent school, the board or independent school may assess the student for the purpose of determining the student's appropriate grade or high school placement.

Associate board or associate independent school decision to end a home education program

An associate board or associate independent school supervising a home education program may end a home education program by notice to the parent if:

- the associate board or associate independent school determines that the student is not making reasonable progress in the activities selected by the parent or in achieving the applicable outcomes; or
- the parent providing the home education program that is supervised by an associate board or associate independent school has not met the requirements of the [Home Education Regulation](#).

When an associate board or associate independent school ends a home education program, it must:

- consult with the parent;
- give due consideration to:
 - the age, grade level and abilities of the student; and
 - the evaluations of the progress of the student conducted by the associate school board or associate independent school and the parent;
- notify the parent in writing including the reasons for ending the home education program.

An associate board or associate independent school that ends a home education program continues to be responsible for the student's education program for the remainder of the school year and must ensure that the student has access to an appropriate education program for the remainder of the school year.

Not supervised by a school authority

A parent who intends to provide a home education program that is not supervised by an associate school board or associate independent school, must notify the Minister of Education of that intention. During the school year, either the parent or the Executive Director of Field Services within the department administered by the Minister may end a home education program.

Parent decision to end a home education program

When the parent chooses to end the home education program during the year, the parent must register the student in an education program with a school authority or in a home education program supervised by another associate school board or associate independent school, if the student is between the ages of six and 16 years old.

Executive director of field services decision to end a home education program

If there is reason to believe that a home education program is not in accordance with the [Home Education Regulation](#), or does not provide a reasonable opportunity for the student to achieve the applicable outcomes, the Executive Director of Field Services within the department administered by the Minister, may authorize an investigation into the matter and may by notice to the parent, end the home education program. In the event that the Executive Director of Field Services ends a home education program and the student is between the ages of six and 16 years old, the parent is responsible for enrolling the student in another education program in a school authority.

Shared Responsibility Program

Shared responsibility is an approach to education where a portion of the student's program is the responsibility of the parent (home education) and a portion is the responsibility of the school authority (e.g. online learning, in-person learning, print based distance education).

A parent of a student providing a home education program that is supervised by a school authority and an Alberta funded school authority may agree to share responsibility for the student's education. The school authority assumes the responsibility to provide specialized support or service if required for a student in a shared responsibility program.

School boards or accredited-funded independent schools are not required to offer shared responsibility programs.

For a shared responsibility program to occur, two conditions must be met:

- The school authority portion of the agreement must consist of a program where an Alberta certificated teacher, employed by a school board or an accredited-funded independent school, is responsible for planning, resource selection, instruction, assessment and evaluation of student progress in selected courses that follow the Alberta programs of study or locally developed courses.
 - The school authority is responsible for a percentage of a student's Grade 1 to 12 program. The program can be:
 - A minimum of 20 percent
 - To a maximum of 80 percent
 - Below this range, a student should be enrolled as a home education student, and above this range, a student should be enrolled as a regular or online student, with the school authority responsible for 100 percent of the program.
 - School authorities with students enrolled in a shared responsibility program will be required to enter the school program percentage as part of enrolment information submitted into PASI.
- The home education portion of the agreement must consist of an education program developed in accordance with the *Education Act* and the *Home Education Regulation*.
 - Parents providing the home education portion of a shared responsibility program that is supervised by a school authority are eligible to receive 50 per cent of the home education grant (calculated based on the percentage of the student's program that is home education), if an associate board or associate independent school has accepted the parent's home education notification form by September 29.

Students in a Home Education program that is supervised by a school authority can access courses in school, online or through distance education. They can also access off-campus education programming for high school credit through Shared Responsibility, under the supervision of a certificated teacher. Off-campus education programming for high school credit includes Career Internship, Green Certificate Program, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Work Experience, and Workplace Readiness and Workplace Practicum. More information about off-campus education programs can be found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/education-guide-off-campus-education.aspx>.

Note: Shared Responsibility programming is not an option in the home education kindergarten pilot.

Not supervised by a school authority

Parents choosing to home educate their child without the supervision of a school authority cannot register in a shared responsibility program.

Home education quick reference for parents

| Notification | Supervised by a school authority | Not supervised by a school authority |
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| Am I required to fill out a notification form every year that I intend to home educate my child? | Yes | Yes |
| Where do I access the form? | From a school authority | On Home Education website or myPass |
| Where do I submit the form? | To a school authority | Alberta Education (by mail) or myPass |
| Does someone need to accept my notification form? | Yes, the school authority must confirm within 15 school days | No; if complete, it will be processed and a confirmation email will be sent to you |

Learning outcomes

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Am I responsible for planning, instruction, assessment, etc. of my child's learning? | Yes | Yes |
| Can I identify and select learning outcomes? | Yes | Yes |
| Must I follow the provincial programs of study? | No | No |
| What outcomes must I use if I am not following the provincial programs of study? | The outcomes contained in the Schedule included in the Home Education Regulation | The outcomes contained in the Schedule included in the Home Education Regulation |
| May I follow the provincial programs of study? | Yes | Yes |
| May I combine outcomes from the Schedule of Learning Outcomes and from the provincial programs of study? | Yes | Yes |
| Am I required to submit a written description of the home education program? | Yes, if the program does not follow the Alberta programs of study | No |
| Does someone need to accept my program description? | Yes | No |
| Can I make changes to my home education program during the year? | Yes, and notify the school authority of any major changes | Yes |

Support

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Is someone responsible to help me with my program planning? | Yes, the supervising school authority | No |
| Can I access support or resources from people or groups I know? | Yes | Yes |
| Can I access course(s) taught by a teacher with a school authority? | Yes, through Shared Responsibility, or one high school course (distance/online) | No |
| Can I be reimbursed for expenses associated with my child's home education program? | Yes, expenses that meet the Standards for Home Education Reimbursement are reimbursable (up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the home education grant allocated to the school authority) | No |
| Is it possible to access services to support my child's special needs? | Yes, see Home Education website | Yes, see Home Education website |

| Assessment | Supervised by a School Authority | Not Supervised by a School Authority |
|---|---|---|
| Must I keep all of my child's work as proof of their learning? | No, only dated samples | No, only dated samples |
| Is my child required to write provincial assessments (Grades 6 and 9) and high school diploma exams? | No | No |
| Can my child write provincial assessments (Grades 6 and 9)? | Yes | No |
| Can my child write diploma exams? | Yes, as a student OR as a mature student at a designated writing centre | Yes, as a mature student, at a designated writing centre |
| High school (Graduation requirements, credentials and credits website) | | |
| Will my child be eligible to receive high school credits? | Yes, upon the recommendation of a school principal following successful completion of a course(s) and diploma exam (as applicable, successful course challenges OR as a mature student that has successfully completed a course(s) and/or diploma exam (as applicable) | Yes, as a mature student that has successfully completed a course(s) and/or diploma exam (as applicable) |
| Will my child be eligible to receive an Alberta High School Diploma or Alberta Certificate of Achievement? | Yes, if the student has met the specified requirements | Yes, as a mature student, if the student has met the specified requirements |
| Will my child be eligible to receive an Alberta High School Equivalency Diploma? | Yes, if the student meets that eligibility requirements AND either accumulates 100 credits or passes five (5) General Educational Development (GED) tests | Yes, if the student meets the eligibility requirements AND either accumulates 100 credits or passes five (5) GED tests |
| Will my child be eligible to receive an Alberta Transcript of High School Achievement (Transcript)? | Yes, it would include high school credits awarded by a school, GED courses and marks, or diploma exam marks and credits (if applicable) | Yes, it would include high school credits awarded by a school, GED courses and marks, or diploma exam marks and credits (if applicable) |
| Can my child take more than one Alberta online/distance education class for credit? | Yes, up to 5 credits. More than that, the student is likely in a shared responsibility program. | No |
| Ending a home education program | | |
| Can I end my program in the middle of the school year? | Yes, if the student is between the ages of six and 16 years old, the parent must enrol the student in another education program with a school authority OR notify the Minister of the parent's intent to provide an unsupervised home education program | Yes, if the student is between the ages of six and 16 years old, the parent must enrol the student in another education program with a school authority |
| Can someone else end my program? | Yes, a school authority may end a home education program. The school authority continues to be responsible for the education program for the remainder of the school year OR the parent may enrol the student in another education program with a school authority OR the parent may notify the Minister of the parent's intent to provide an unsupervised home education program | Yes, the Executive Director of Field Services may end an unsupervised home education program. If the student is between the ages of six and 16 years old, the parent must enrol the student in another education program with a school authority. |