

# Guide to Education

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## ECS TO Grade 12

### Summary of Key Changes

For the 2009–2010 School Year

Page/Section	Change
Throughout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <i>Guide</i> has internal contact information hyperlinked.</li><li>• The <i>Guide</i> is posted on the Ministry of Education Web site in PDF format with bookmarks and hyperlinks to primary source documents in order to facilitate location of information.</li><li>• The <i>Guide</i> is the key policy repository and main link to other requirements and information critical to the delivery of education programs in Alberta.</li><li>• The names and codes of courses have been updated to reflect current designations and names and course codes were deleted if courses were withdrawn.</li><li>• Where appropriate, the term “completion” has replaced “graduation.” There are many routes for students to complete high school, and not all of them result in graduation.</li></ul>

<b>Page/Section</b>	<b>Change</b>
Page 1 Alberta Education Vision/Mission	The vision and mission statements have been updated as per the 2009–2012 Alberta Education business plan.
Page 7 Legislative and Other Requirements for Education in Alberta	<i>Teaching Profession Act</i> information added regarding its provisions governing membership and the discipline of members.
Page 9 <i>School Act</i>	A section entitled “The Parent” has been added to highlight the rights and responsibilities of parents in relation to decisions affecting the education of their children. This section also includes the definition of parent as set out in the <i>School Act</i> .
Page 10 Attendance Board	Two points added to section stating what the Attendance Board may direct a student and/or parent to do, upon hearing a matter.
Page 12 Review by the Minister	Clarification has been added to give direction to the types of specific matters that the Minister may review after a board makes a decision on a parent/student appeal.
Page 18 Practice Review of Teachers Regulation	Practice Review Bylaws of the ATA referenced as taking responsibility for addressing complaints about alleged incompetent teaching practice for teachers who are active members of the ATA.
Page 23 <i>Kindergarten Program Statement</i>	Has been included in Requirements in Other Alberta Education Documents section to reinforce the importance of this program for children’s future learning experiences.
Page 23 Guides for Education Planning and Results Reporting	Section 13 of the <i>School Councils Regulation</i> is referred to as information for school councils to provide advice on the school’s mission, vision, philosophy; annual education plan; annual results report; and budget.
Page 25 Learning and Teaching Resources	Sentence added as a reminder that all learning and teaching resources are authorized by the Minister pursuant to section 39(1) of the <i>School Act</i> .
Page 26 First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education (FNMI)	FNMI policy framework has been linked to ensure that readers will see the original policy framework as well as the 2007 and 2008 progress reports.

<b>Page/Section</b>	<b>Change</b>
Pages 29, 30, 37 Definition of Instruction	The definition was made more specific, yet still providing flexibility in program delivery. Outdated terminology (computer-assisted instruction, self-directed packages) has been replaced (online education, self-directed instructional resources).
Page 31 Information and Communication Technology/Daily Physical Activity	Both sections have been moved to the beginning of the ECS to Grade 9 programming section as they both have implications for programming.
Page 40 Scholarships	Clarification has been given regarding the second level of the Rutherford Scholarship available to students that meet the criteria of a combined average of 75%.
Page 44 Career and Technology Studies	Updated information regarding CTS clusters, courses and strands has been inserted.
Page 44 Apprenticeship Articulation	Updated information regarding articulation agreements and accreditation in apprenticeships has been inserted.
Page 47 International Languages Programs	This section has been reworked and reorganized for clarity.
Page 49 Green Certificate Program	The new Equine Technician specialization for Green Certificate students has been added.
Page 50 Knowledge and Employability Courses	Updated implementation (mandatory and optional) dates and information added for clarity.
Page 54 Music – Private Study	Footnote added – Conservatory Canada’s Contemporary Idioms Piano Syllabus is also recognized for senior high school credit.
Page 55 Work Experience 15, 25, 35	Clarification – students may earn up to 30 credits in work experience.
Page 58 Special Projects Credits	Further direction has been added under the requirements section outlining that special projects are not programs or courses offered by organizations external to Alberta Education.

<b>Page/Section</b>	<b>Change</b>
Page 59 Special Projects Credits	Special Projects credits may also be applied toward the Certificate of High School Achievement.
Page 67 Program Delivery Options	Specific information about Distributed Learning Resources Branch courses has been added.
Page 68 Program Delivery Options	Section created for Charter Schools and Private Schools to denote programs available outside of the public education system.
Page 77 Diploma and Certificate Requirements	Formerly titled as “Graduation and High School Completion Requirements.” This section now encompasses all diplomas and certificates that can be earned by an individual (including mature students).
Pages 81 High School Completion Rate	Information and definitions used in calculations of the High School Completion Rate has been added.
Pages 84–85 Alberta High School Diploma Graduation Requirements	The mathematics requirement footnote has been removed. Students are required to obtain a 20-level mathematics course for graduation, unless the student entered Grade 10 before September 1998. For more information regarding this requirement, contact Learner Records and Data Exchange.
Page 85 Alberta High School Diploma Graduation Requirements	Footnote added explaining that Science 20 may not be used to meet the graduation requirement in Francophone schools, as it is not offered.
Pages 90–91 Evaluation of Out-of-province/Out-of-country Educational Documents	Information has been added to assist administrators to determine Alberta equivalents for out-of-province/out-of-country transcripts.
Page 91–92 Visiting or Exchange Students	Information has been added to assist with registration and programming for visiting or exchange students.
Page 111 Distributed Learning Resources	Section has been added outlining what types of resources the Distributed Learning Branch offers.

<b>Page/Section</b>	<b>Change</b>
Page 112 LearnAlberta.ca	Clarification on how to access LearnAlberta.ca has been inserted.
Pages 113–114 Alberta Education Branch/Unit Contacts	New branches of Cross-Ministry Services, Early Learning and revised names of existing branches, such as Special Education, International Education Services, have been added along with contact information.