

ALBERTA EDUCATION

# Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12

***Summary of Key Changes:  
2016–2017 School Year***

*Alberta*  Government

Page	Change
<b>General</b> Updated links	Following the transition to Alberta Education’s new website, links have been updated to reflect the new location of information and documents.
Career and Technology Foundations	References have been inserted throughout the <i>Guide</i> to the new Career and Technology Foundations program announced by the Minister in March 2016.
Distance Learning	The terms “distributed learning” and “distributed learning resources” have been removed or replaced with “distance learning,” except on pages 125–126, where “distributed learning resources” is retained to reflect usage by LearnAlberta.ca.
<b>Page 2</b> myPass	Additional information has been added to this section regarding the self-service capabilities of myPass.
<b>Page 18</b> <i>Guidelines for Best Practices: Creating Learning Environments that Respect Diverse Sexual Orientations, Gender Identities and Gender Expressions</i>	A reference and hyperlink to the <i>Guidelines for Best Practices: Creating Learning Environments that Respect Diverse Sexual Orientations, Gender Identities and Gender Expressions</i> has been added to assist schools in supporting students with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.
<b>Page 21</b> <i>Children First Act</i>	New wording has been included describing the <i>Children First Act</i> and providing additional related information.
<b>Page 32</b> Inclusive Education	The description of inclusion has been updated to reflect the current approach to promoting inclusion for all learners.
<b>Pages 62–63</b> Music—Private Study	This section has been amended to reflect recent changes to the Alberta Transcript of High School Achievement that now permit the awarding of both credits and a percentage mark for students participating in private music courses. This change will be applied retroactively to the 2015–2016 school year. New information is also provided regarding how principals are to evaluate private music study for the purpose of awarding credits and a percentage mark.
<b>Page 73</b> Course Sequence Transfer	Information on course sequence transfers has been moved from the Awarding Course Credits section to the Courses and Programs section, so readers can access both the course sequence tables and the transfer information in one location.
<b>Page 76</b> Home Education	The introductory section on home education has been updated to better reflect parents’ roles and responsibilities in home educating their children. The home education section has also been amended to reference the Standards for Home Education Reimbursement. These standards are provided by Alberta Education to school authorities that supervise a home education program as a resource tool for meeting their accountabilities regarding the use of home education funding.

Page	Change
<b>Page 77</b> Online Programs	This section has been renamed from “Online Delivery.” Direction is provided regarding school authority policies on maintaining student information and giving students access to writing provincial assessments. As well, principal approval for students under age 16 to enroll in online programs is necessary. ECS children cannot be enrolled in online programming.
<b>Page 80</b> Learning and Technology Policy Framework	The description of the Learning and Technology Policy Framework has been amended to elaborate on the framework’s structure and intended purpose.
<b>Page 81</b> Duty to Report	A new section has been added to provide information on school personnel’s duty to report suspected abuse under the <i>Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act</i> .
HIV/AIDS in Educational Settings	This section has been removed, as a wide range of government and community resources are now available from Alberta Health, the Government of Canada and the Alberta Community Council on HIV which provide current and relevant information on HIV/AIDS.
<b>Pages 89–90</b> Student Learning Assessments	Information on the pilot phase of the Student Learning Assessments has been updated for 2016, and the definitions of literacy and numeracy have been updated to reflect new definitions formally adopted by the ministry.
<b>Page 106</b> Diploma Examinations	Science 30 has been added to the list of diploma examinations that can be written in either English or French.
<b>Pages 125–126</b> Resources and Services	Information has been updated to reflect new documents related to learning and teaching resources, specifically <i>Guiding Voices: A Curriculum Development Tool for Weaving First Nation, Métis and Inuit Perspectives Throughout Curriculum</i> . This section has also been updated to reference the <i>Ministerial Order on Student Learning</i> and the <i>Teaching Quality Standard Applicable to the Provision of Basic Education in Alberta</i> .
<b>Pages 135–136</b> Appendix 3	Directions have been added for locating Certificate of High School Achievement requirements after 2006.