

Administrative Procedure 217

ALTERNATIVE OUTREACH EDUCATION

Background

Some students do not thrive in traditional school settings. For these individuals, alternative education programs may reduce the risk of "dropping out" or offer a chance to resume an already interrupted education.

Alberta Education funds Outreach Programs to assist students in making the transition back into school or by providing a variety of approaches to meet the individual needs of students. Outreach programs are programs of basic education developed for funded students who are unable to attend or benefit from a regular school program.

The Division supports an alternative outreach program that will enhance the educational, psychological, social, and employability needs for at-risk students. The alternative outreach program is designed to foster co-operation and partnership with community and government agencies.

The Division will work in partnership with other community agencies to offer the best possible outreach program for at-risk students.

Procedures

1. The legislation, as set out by the School Act regarding the right of access to education, the powers of Boards and alternative programs will be adhered to in the operation of the Alternative Outreach program(s).
2. The Alternative Outreach program(s) will be funded according to the criteria stated in the current Funding Policy Manual developed by Alberta Education.
3. The Alternative Outreach program(s) will be coded and operate as a stand-alone school and as an individual fiscal entity.
4. The site and facilities used for the Alternative Outreach program(s) will meet Alberta building, health and safety standards for schools.
5. The Alternative Outreach program(s) will consist of Alberta Education approved courses and programs of study.
6. The outreach students will have access to a certified teacher for the number of hours indicated in the Guide to Education.



7. Students in the Alternative Outreach program(s) may complete courses in a regular program at the same time they are attending an outreach program with the approval of the principal.
8. The Alternative Outreach program(s) will establish and operate with appropriate expectations regarding attendance, performance and student eligibility. These will be detailed in the school handbook.
9. Potential students may be identified by school administrators, community agencies, parents, or by self-referral.
10. Flexibility to accommodate the students' working hours, family commitments and personal circumstances will be considered on an individual basis and monitored closely.
11. Student conduct as outlined in the School Act and existing Board policies and administrative procedures will be expected.
12. Individual programs/contracts with appropriate timelines will be developed with each student for the completion of high school courses.
13. Students who do not demonstrate that they wish to be part of this program will be asked to leave the program.

Reference: Section 8, 21, 39, 45, 49, 60, 61, 113, School Act
Outreach Programs Policy 1.1.4
Outreach Programs Handbook
Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12

