ACCESS TO EDUCATION Students



## Purpose/Background

The Division shall allow access to educational programs in accordance with the Education Act. Programming will be provided for students who are between the ages of six (6) and 19 years of age, according to the procedures below. Additionally, the Division supports the provision of Early Childhood Services for students younger than six (6) years of age and access to learning opportunities for students who are older than 19 on September 1 of a school year but younger than 20 years.

## Procedures

- 1. Early Childhood Services Programs (ECS) (Kindergarten)
  - 1.1 Parents/guardians may enroll their child in kindergarten in their designated school provided the child is five (5) years of age by the last day of December in the year that they begin school, or they are five (5) years old as of September 1 and have not taken ECS previously.
  - 1.2 Children with special needs who are younger than the age set by clause 1.1, and who qualify under the criteria set out by Alberta Education may be admitted to an ECS program according to the program, policies and regulations set out by Alberta Education providing a suitable program is available.
- 2. Grade One
  - 2.1 Parents/guardians whose child has completed an ECS program, and the child is six (6) years of age by the last day of December in the year they begin school, will be placed in Grade 1 at the beginning of that year.
  - 2.2 A child who has not completed an ECS program and are 6 (six) years of age by the last day of December in the year they begin school may be admitted to an ECS program or Grade 1 at the beginning of that year.
  - 2.3 Students who have attained the age of seven (7) years on or before the last day of December of the current school year, who have not attended school, will be placed in Grade 1 at the beginning of that school year.
- 3. Parents/guardians are required to provide the child's birth certificate as part of the online student registration process. RVS families who would like to enrol their child(ren) at a school other than their designated school and families living outside RVS boundaries who would like to enrol their child in an RVS school must complete Administrative Form AF305-A Out of Attendance Area Application and submit it to their school of choice.

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- 4. Senior Students
  - 4.1 Students who are younger than 19 years of age as of September 1 are eligible to be enrolled in an educational program.
  - 4.2 Students older than 19 years of age, but less than 20, as of September 1 may be enrolled in an educational program at the discretion of the Division.
- 5. All Parents registering their children with the Division are required to complete the section referring to Francophone Education Eligibility found on the student registration form.

Reference:

- Education Act Sections 3, 4, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 30, 44, 45, 60, 61 and 113
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms Section 23