

# Home Education Support in Aspen View Public Schools

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## 1. Provincial and Division Documentation

Aspen View will support Home Education programs, and in doing so will follow *Administrative Procedure 230: Home Education*, and the *School Act: Home Education Regulation*.

## 2. Determining the Best Fit for Your Family

Parents considering a home education program for their child need to determine if they want to home educate their students in a Traditional Parent-Directed Home-Education Program, a Teacher Directed Home-Education Program or in a Blended Program. The *Home Education Handbook* will help in this decision.

## 3. Selecting an Associate School Board and Creating a Home Education Program Plan

As a parent, you are responsible for notifying a school board or private school of your intent to home educate your child. The school board that you notify is referred to as your **Associate School Board**. If you decide that you want Aspen View Public Schools to be your Associate School Board, you need to provide a completed *Notification Form* to Aspen View Public Schools. In Alberta, parents are able to access funding for home education as long as their child is at least five (5) years of age by the end of February in any given school year and not older than nineteen (19) years of age on September 1 of the school year. Registrations must be received before Alberta Education's registration deadline, which September 30 of the school year to qualify for funding.

Part B of the *Notification Form* asks parents if the home education program will follow the *Alberta Programs of Study* or if the home education program will follow the *Schedule* as outlined in the *Home Education Regulation*.

- i. If the parent decides to follow a Traditional Parent-Directed Home-Education Program, where the program is parent-directed, you will need to develop a *Home Education Program Plan* in accordance with the *Schedule* included in the *Home Education Regulation*.

A Traditional Parent-Directed Home-Education Program uses curriculum of the parents' choice. Essentially, it is a program delivered entirely by a parent outside the structured learning environment of a school. The parent selects the resources and activities, and also does the evaluations for the course. Parents have the option of using the outcomes and resources as set out in the *Alberta Programs of Study* if they wish; if they select this option, they will need to indicate this in the *Home Education Program Plan*. *Alberta Programs of Study* courses can be purchased from the Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC).

A *Home Education Program Plan* must include 1) a list of activities that will accomplish the learning outcomes and an explanation of how they meet these outcomes, 2) a list of instructional methods and resources to be used, and 3) an explanation of how the child's progress will be evaluated.

Parents may ask Aspen View Public Schools to help in the development of the **Home Education Program Plan**, at which time Aspen View Public Schools will direct parents to the Parent-Directed Homeschool support through Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC). If parents choose to use ADLC's Parent-Directed Homeschool support, the funds that are allocated to parents will be turned over to ADLC for management. (Please note, you are not able to register directly with ADLC; Aspen View Public Schools will need to do that for you.)

An assigned Aspen View Public Schools or ADLC facilitator/teacher will ask to review your **Home Education Program Plan**. They will be reviewing your goals, resources and evaluation procedures to make sure they align with the **Schedule**.

The parent and the child will need to visit with an assigned Aspen View Public Schools or ADLC facilitator/teacher twice during the school year to review student achievement. These visits could take place in the parents' home, at Division Office, at the local school, or in a location agreed upon by ADLC and the parents. Be prepared to show how your child is meeting your educational goals in the **Home Education Program Plan**, and to provide examples of your child's learning. Also, be prepared to allow access to your child for direct evaluation. A written report will be created after each visit.

Home education students will be offered the opportunity to participate in provincial assessments.

Parents running a **Traditional Parent-Directed Home-Education Program** have access to \$835.40 for resources. To access these funds, parents need to purchase the resources, then provide receipts and demonstrate the funds were used to support their child's education plan. **If parents choose to use ADLC's Parent-Directed Homeschool support, these funds will be turned over to ADLC so that ADLC can purchase the resources and/or reimburse parents after their selection of resources/supports.**

- ii. If the parent decides to follow a **Teacher Directed Home-Education Program**, where the parent follows curriculum in alignment with the **Alberta Program of Studies**, and where there is a certified teacher assigned to support the courses, Aspen View will help the parent register for courses through Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC). Please note that this type of program almost mirrors what a typical classroom looks like; the child will need to dedicate a predetermined amount of time each day on each subject.

In this teacher-directed approach, the ADLC teacher will set the resources and activities and will do the student evaluations. Aspen View will purchase the resources from ADLC on behalf of the parents.

Please note, you are not able to register directly with ADLC; Aspen View will do that for you.

Parents running a **Teacher-Directed Home-Education Program** have access to \$835.40 for resources. To access these funds, parents need to provide receipts and demonstrate the funds were used to support their child's education plan.

If the parent decides to follow a combination of both i and ii, they will need to make this clear in their **Home Education Program Plan**.

- iii. The parent could decide to follow a **Blended Program**. A Blended Program consists of time spent in a Home-Education Program and time spent in a traditional school setting. In a Blended Program, K-9 students must attend the traditional school at least 50% of the time; High School students must attend 20% of the time.

A **Home Education Program Plan** will need to be created to indicate which portion of the program is going to be time spent in a traditional school setting, and which will be spent in a Home-Education setting. The **Home Education Program Plan** guidelines outlined above for Home-Education Programs will need to be followed in regards to the creation of the plan, and the evaluation of the child.

Parents running a **Blended Program** have access to the following funds for resources:

- o \$417.70 for resources if running a 50% Blended Program for Grades 1-9.
- o \$668.32 for resources if running a 20% Blended High School Program.

To access these funds, parents need to purchase the resources, then provide receipts and demonstrate the funds were used to support their child's education plan.

*Note: Schools are not funded for:*

- *Students in grades 1-9 if they register with that school after September*
- *Kindergarten (funding only begins in grade 1 for homeschooling)*
- *Students beyond the funding age (20 years old on Sept. 1st)*
- *Out of province students*
- *The Alberta government does not make additional funding or services available to home educated special needs children. At this time, special needs students receive the standard funding for home education and no more.*

For more information please contact:

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