

## MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE

No. MD 2016-05

### Granting of credit for educational activities not provided by an Education Authority

Pursuant to sections 3(1)(g) and subsection 4(1) of the *Education Act* R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. E-.02, I hereby issue the following Minister's Directive concerning the granting of credit for educational activities not provided by an education authority:

#### Interpretation

1. In this Minister's Directive, an educational activity is comparable in content and learning outcomes to a course offered by an education authority if, in the opinion of the Department, at least 75% of the educational activity corresponds to the content and learning outcomes of the education authority course;
2. For the purposes of determining the residency of a student in sections 6 and 10 of this Minister's Directive, a student is considered resident in the other jurisdiction if, when enrolled in the educational activity,
  - (a) the student was entitled to free school privileges in the public education system of that jurisdiction; or
  - (b) the student physically resided in the other jurisdiction.
3. Nothing in this Minister's Directive shall be construed as restricting the authority of the education authority to determine the placement of students who transfer from an out-of-province education system in accordance with the students' needs, their educational attainments and education authority policy.

#### Home Education Programs

4. An education authority shall not grant credit to a student for educational activities provided through a home education program.

#### Private School Programs and Courses

5. An education authority may grant credit to a student for an educational activity provided by a private school in Prince Edward Island. The credit granted shall be for the equivalent course offered by the education authority if the educational activity is comparable in content and learning outcomes to the course offered by the education authority.
6. An education authority may grant credit for an educational activity provided by a private school located in a jurisdiction other than Prince Edward Island, provided that the student completed the activity while resident in the jurisdiction where the private school is located. The credit granted for the educational activity shall be for the equivalent course offered by the education authority if the educational activity

- (a) is comparable in content and learning outcomes to the course offered by the education authority; and
- (b) is recognized by the government of the jurisdiction where the private school is located as being equivalent to a course offered within the jurisdiction's public education system.

7. An education authority may grant credit to a student for an educational activity provided by a private school that is not equivalent to a course offered by the education authority.

#### **Programs and Courses authorized by the Minister**

8. An education authority may grant credit to a student for an educational activity that is authorized by the Minister. If the educational activity corresponds to a course provided by the education authority, the credit granted shall be for the equivalent course offered by the education authority.
9. Course or programs offered by the Government of Prince Edward Island and the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority are hereby recognized as courses or programs authorized by the Minister for the purposes of section 8.

#### **Programs and Courses approved by other Provincial and Territorial Governments**

10. An education authority may grant credit to a student for an educational activity that is authorized by another provincial or territorial government for use in that jurisdiction's public education system if the student completed the activity while he or she was resident in that jurisdiction.
11. The credit granted for the educational activity under section 10 shall be for the equivalent course offered by the education authority if the educational activity is comparable in content and learning outcomes to the course offered by the education authority, as determined by the Department.

Education authority officials are required to consult with the Department to confirm equivalency of courses from other jurisdictions with courses within the Prince Edward Island curriculum.

#### **Distance Education Courses**

12. An education authority may grant credit to a student for an educational activity provided through a distance education course or a correspondence course, during or outside of normal school hours, if
  - (a) the course is approved by the Department;
  - (b) the student's participation in the course is supervised by a teacher or a person who is registered as a teacher in another province or territory; and
  - (c) the course is approved by the principal of the student's school as being appropriate for the student's academic program prior to the commencement of the course.

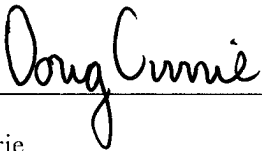
13. The credit granted for the educational activity under section 12 shall not be for the equivalent course offered by an education authority unless it is approved as an equivalent credit by the Department.

**External Credentials**

14. An education authority may grant credit to a student for an educational activity that is provided by an external provider if the activity and education service agency are identified in the *External Credential Policy*, published by the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture, as amended from time to time. The education authority's ability to grant credit under this section is subject to the conditions and limitations set out in the *External Credential Policy*.

This Minister's Directive comes into effect on September 1, 2016.

**DATED** at the City of Charlottetown, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.



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Doug Currie  
Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture