

**MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE**  
**No. MD 2017-02**  
**Granting of Senior High Graduation Diploma and Certificate of Accomplishment in the**  
**English language education program**

Pursuant to clause 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 to establish rules for the granting of diplomas and provincial certificates of accomplishment in an English language education program, including an education program for French immersion students.

**This Minister's Directive replaces Minister's Directive No. MD 2016-04.**

**Interpretation**

1. In this Directive,
  - (a) "affiliated school" means an educational institution located outside of Canada that is authorized by the Minister to use curricula developed and approved by the Department;
  - (b) "credit" means a weighted unit based on the number of defined hours of instruction in a course that is awarded to a student upon successful completion of the course with a pass mark of at least 50%;
  - (c) "English credit" means a credit for a course identified as an English course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*;
  - (d) "English language education program" means the education program approved by the Minister under clause 3(2)(b) of the *Education Act* for use in the English school system;
  - (e) "French credit" means a credit for a course identified as a core French or French immersion course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*;
  - (f) "mathematics credit" means a credit for a course identified as a mathematics course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*;
  - (g) "physical education credit" means a credit for a course identified as a physical education course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*;
  - (h) "science credit" means a credit for a course identified as a science course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*;

(i) “*Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*” means the most recent version of the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*, published by the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture, as amended from time to time;

(j) “social studies credit” means a credit for a course identified as a social studies course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*.

#### **PART A - Eligibility**

2. An individual is eligible to receive a Senior High Graduation Diploma if the individual has successfully completed the course credit requirements for a Senior High Graduation Diploma described in Part B of this Directive and
  - (a) is enrolled in a senior high school operated by the Public Schools Branch; or
  - (b) is enrolled in an affiliated school that, in the opinion of the Deputy Minister, offers courses that are substantially equivalent to courses offered by the Public Schools Branch.
3. An individual is eligible to receive a Certificate of Accomplishment if the individual has completed the course credit requirements for a Certificate of Accomplishment described in Part C of this Directive and
  - (a) is enrolled in a senior high school operated by the Public Schools Branch; or
  - (b) is enrolled in an affiliated school that, in the opinion of the Deputy Minister, offers courses that are substantially equivalent to courses offered by the Public Schools Branch.
4. This Directive does not apply with respect to the eligibility of individuals to receive a General Educational Development (GED) Diploma or to receive certification for completion of senior high level courses as an adult learner who is not enrolled in a school operated by an education authority. Certification under those programs is the responsibility of the Minister of Workforce and Advanced Learning.

#### **PART B – Academic Requirements for a Senior High Graduation Diploma**

4. Sections 5 and 6 apply to individuals who commence studies in a senior high education program in the school year commencing September 2015, or at a later date.
5. (1) An individual who is enrolled in an English language education program has completed the course credit requirements to be granted a Senior High Graduation Diploma if the individual has successfully completed twenty (20) course credits comprised of
  - (a) at least five (5) course credits from courses designated in *the Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials* as Grade 12 courses (600 or 800 level courses); and
  - (b) at least twelve (12) course credits from the compulsory course credits described in subsection (3).
- (2) A course credit may be used to satisfy the course credit requirements described in both clause (1)(a) and clause (1)(b).

- (3) The compulsory course credit requirements referred to in clause (1)(b) include:
- (a) 3 English credits, one of which must be ENG 621A or ENG 631A;
  - (b) 2 mathematics credits;
  - (c) 2 science credits;
  - (d) 2 social studies credits, one of which must be CAS401A, GEO421A, HIS421G/J, LAW521A, LAW521F, LAW531A, HIS621A, HIS 621B, POL621A or a social studies credit approved by the Director of the English Innovation, Education and Programs Division of the Department as a compulsory course credit;
  - (e) 1 physical education credit, which must be PED401A;
  - (f) 1 career education and personal development credit, one of which must be CEO401A or CAR421F;
  - (g) 1 credit from among the following:
    - (i) a credit from a course identified as a creativity or innovation course in the *Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials*, or
    - (ii) a French credit.
6. (1) An individual may apply in writing to the Director of the English Innovation, Education and Programs Division of the Department for an exemption from the following compulsory course credit requirements referenced in section 5:
- (a) PED401A;
  - (b) CEO401A;
  - (c) CAR421F.
- (2) An individual shall provide the following information with an application for an exemption
- (a) a description of the reason why the individual should not be required to complete the compulsory course credit requirement;
  - (b) a description of the steps taken by the education authority or affiliated school to accommodate the individual's specific circumstances within the curriculum associated with the compulsory course credit requirement; and
  - (c) a written recommendation from the principal of the school or affiliated school, as the case may be, that the individual be exempted from the compulsory course credit requirement.
- (3) On receiving a completed application made in accordance with this section, the Director of English Innovation, Education and Programs Division of the Department may exempt an individual from a compulsory course credit requirement if, in the Director's opinion,
- (a) the individual's personal health, religious or physical circumstances prevent the individual from fully participating in the compulsory course, and the health, religious or physical circumstances of the individual cannot be reasonably accommodated within the curriculum of the compulsory course; or

(b) the individual has transferred into the education program from another jurisdiction in the individual's third year of study at the senior high level, and enrolment in the compulsory course would unduly delay the completion of the individual's senior high program of studies.

7. (1) This section applies to individuals who commence studies in a senior high education program prior to September 2015.
- (2) An individual who is enrolled in an English language education program has completed the requirements to be granted a Senior High Graduation Diploma if the student has successfully completed twenty (20) course credits comprised of
  - (a) at least five (5) course credits from courses designated in *the Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials* as Grade 12 courses (600 or 800 level courses); and
  - (b) at least ten (10) course credits from the compulsory course credits described in subsection (3).
- (3) A course credit may be used to satisfy the credit requirements described in both clause (2)(a) and clause (2)(b).
- (4) The compulsory course credit requirements referred to in clause (2)(b) include:
  - (a) 4 English credits or French credits;
  - (b) 2 mathematics credits;
  - (c) 2 science credits; and
  - (d) 2 social studies credits.

### **PART C – Academic Requirements for a Provincial Certificate of Accomplishment**

8. (1) An individual who is enrolled in an English language education program has successfully completed the course credit requirements to be granted a Provincial Certificate of Accomplishment if the individual has successfully completed twenty (20) course credits comprised of
  - (a) at least five (5) course credits from courses designated in *the Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials* as Grade 12 courses (600 or 800 level courses); and
  - (b) at least nine (9) course credits from the compulsory course credits described in subsection (3).
- (2) A course credit may be used to satisfy the course credit requirements described in both clause (1)(a) and clause (1)(b).

(3) The compulsory course credit requirements referred to in clause (1)(b) include:

- (a) 3 English or French credits;
- (b) 2 mathematics credits;
- (c) 2 science credits;
- (d) 2 social studies credits.

9. Minister's Directive No. MD 2016-04 is revoked.

This Minister's Directive is effective September 1, 2017.

Dated at the City of Charlottetown, this 23 day of June, 2017.



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Doug Currie  
Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture