



April 2021

# Home Education:

## An overview for 2021-22

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The most fundamental characteristic of a home education program relates to responsibility of supervision and instruction. If you decide to register in the Next Step Home Education program, the parents/guardians will be required to assume the responsibility of planning, supervising, administering and evaluating their child's educational program. To assist in this regard, parents/guardians will be provided access to the Brightspace learning platform with additional learning resources for the four core subjects: English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. Utilizing the platform will ensure the essential learning outcomes in the Program of Studies are covered. Alternatively, parents/guardians can choose to not utilize these resources and instead follow the general Learning Outcomes as listed in the Education Act's [Home Education Regulation](#), the outcomes in Alberta Education's [Program of Studies](#) or a combination of each in the development of their own program.

In the Home Education program, students won't be connected to their home school and will not receive instruction and teacher support as was provided in the out-of-school learning program during the 2020-21 school year. However, a Next Step teacher will provide four check-ins throughout the year to assist parents/guardians in supporting your child's learning. Additionally, the Next Step teacher will monitor your child's progress by providing formal evaluations two times throughout the school year. These evaluations include a review of the student portfolio and recommendations to help students make improvements.

Outlined below is a summary of what Home Education will and will not include to aide you in your decision.

### What will EIPS Home Education look like?

The home education option for 2021-22 will be:

- Parent directed.
- An educational choice where parents are responsible for all programming, assessment and supervision of student learning.
  - Optional learning resources will be available through the Brightspace platform.
  - Parents conduct an evaluation of the progress of the student at regular intervals and maintain a record of the methods and dates of those evaluations.
  - Parents maintain dated samples of student work and a general record of the student's activities.
- Monitored by EIPS Next Step Home Education.
  - A Next Step teacher will conduct four check-ins throughout the year to support families with the program they've established for their child(ren).



- A Next Step teacher will conduct two formal evaluations during the school year.
- A full-year commitment, with no option to transfer back to in-school learning during the 2021-22 school year.

### How will EIPS Home Education be different from the 2020-21 out-of-school learning experience?

The home education option for 2021-22 will include:

- No teacher-led instruction or office hour availability.
- No instructional meets will be offered during the school year.
- No teacher assessment or feedback outside of the two formal evaluations conducted during the year.
- No opportunity to transition between home education and in-school learning.
- No access to EIPS specialized supports, such as speech language pathologists, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

Alberta Education has created the [Home Education Handbook](#) as a resource for parents looking to start or refine a home education program. The handbook includes information on:

- planning the child's education program
- understanding legal rights and responsibilities
- following through with a home education plan
- planning supports and services
- ending a home education program
- planning for transitions

Additional information is available on the [Alberta Education: Home Education Overview](#) webpage.

### KEY DATES

**April 30, 2021** – Deadline to submit the Home Education Notification Form through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) to indicate your desire to register in the Home Education program for the 2021-22 school year.

**May and June 2021** – Each Home Education family will take part in a virtual planning meeting with Next Step staff.

**Sept. 1, 2021** – Families who have chosen Home Education no longer have the ability to change back to regular in-school learning for the 2021-22 school year.

**Sept. 30, 2021** – Parents/guardians who choose the Home Education program supervised by EIPS are eligible for a home education grant. To receive their portion—50%—of the home education grant as reimbursement for instructional materials and services that support the instructional program at home, the parent must have notified and been accepted by EIPS regarding the home education program by September 30 (source: [Alberta Education: Home Education Overview](#)).



## HOW TO REGISTER/EXPRESS INTEREST?

1. Complete the *EIPS Home Education Registration Intention (2021-22)* form available through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). The form is due **April 30, 2021**.
  - a. The form is only available for current out-of-school learners.
  - b. To review the list of forms available for each child in your family, click on the Forms tab in the left-hand menu in PowerSchool. You can review and submit the form for each applicable student by clicking through the student name tabs at the top of your screen. Note: Forms in PowerSchool often do not display properly in Internet Explorer. Please use a different browser to review and complete the forms for your family.
2. Once the Division has received your form, a Next Step staff member will reach out to you to set up a planning meeting for the coming year. At that time, families and Next Step staff will review and complete all other forms required to fully register for Home Education.