

Oct. 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Legal Guardians:

Alberta Education announced today that students will have a choice as to whether or not to write diploma examinations for November 2020:

When the school re-entry plan was released, the department announced that diploma exams will continue to be administered as long as Scenario 1 or Scenario 2 are in place, but may be canceled if a shift to Scenario 3 becomes necessary. We are dealing with a complex and unpredictable set of circumstances, and we must remain ready to adapt to changes and follow the guidelines set out by the Chief Medical Officer of Health. That said, we are always exploring options to make the return to in-person learning as smooth as possible, and we will make adjustments to the school re-entry plan as required.

As such, Alberta's government is providing students and parents/legal guardians with the option of choosing to write their diploma exams for the November 2020 administration. At this time, diploma exam administrations for the balance of the 2020/21 school year are expected to proceed as usual. Alberta's government will continue to monitor the situation, and potential adjustments to future diploma exam administrations will be considered one administration at a time.

Students are encouraged to make this decision by discussing it with their parents/legal guardians and teachers by considering the following criteria:

- home education students if required by a post-secondary institution;
- adult students may have expected to write a diploma exam without taking the course;
- students who do not have a passing mark in a diploma course may choose to write their diploma exam to pass the course; and
- students who want to raise their mark or want a diploma mark on their transcript may choose to write diploma exams in applicable courses.

We are providing you with this information as soon as we are aware of it. Attached to this letter is a question and answer document from Alberta Education that provides additional details. If you have questions, please see the attached document, or contact your child(ren)'s school principal. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Dr. Clint Moroziuk
Superintendent of Schools

Encl.

1. Diploma Exams – Questions and Answers (Alberta Education)

