

SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR STUDENTS AND CHILDREN

Background

Increasing numbers of students and children require specialized services, during school and Early Childhood Service (ECS) program hours. Therefore, the Division will work together with members of the community and community agencies to serve the needs of students and children who are "at risk" or who have special needs.

Procedures

1. Subject to section 40 (1) a student who is determined by a board to be in need of specialized supports and services is entitled to have access to those supports and services in an education program.
2. In order to minimize duplication of effort and improve access for, and responsiveness to, children and families in need, the Division is committed to working together with other community agencies, organizations and associations; other local education authorities within and across school districts, including operators of Early Childhood Services (ECS) programs; and regional authorities, including Alberta Health Services and Child and Family Services Authorities. Examples of "working together" include information-sharing procedures, joint service planning and delivery agreements (informal or formal).
3. To serve the needs of students and children in each school community, principals, and where appropriate, other staff members, will take an active role to initiate or participate in working together with other members of the community and community agencies to improve services.
4. In cases where efficiencies can be realized through the provision of centralized services available to all school communities within the Division, the Superintendent or designate, will initiate, develop and/or participate in partnerships designed to improve services to students and children.
5. Procedures in working together with members of the community will be consistent with provincial policies and procedures, including the Standards for Special Education.

Reference: *Education Act*, SA 2012, c E-0.3, ss. 11, 31, 32, 33, 40, 197, 222
Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12
Standards for Special Education
Standards for the Provision of Early Childhood Special Education