

3.1 Newfoundland and Labrador (NL)

Population: 526,977

Number of K-12 Schools: 262

Number of K-12 Students: 66,800

Number of K-12 E-Learning Programs: 1

Number of K-12 E-Learning Students: 1105



K-12 E-Learning Programs

The Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation (CDLI) is the sole provider of K-12 distance education in the province. During the 2015-16 school year there were 1105 students registered and 1715 course registrations in 38 different courses representing 103 different schools. Distance learning at the K-12 level is delivered using a combination of synchronous and asynchronous tools, with synchronous instruction being the primary method. The CDLI also offered online course reviews for students in a variety of courses throughout the secondary level. The reviews utilized recorded instruction and solutions to sample questions related to provincial learning outcomes.

While blended learning occurs primarily at the post-secondary level in Newfoundland and Labrador, the CDLI does allow any provincial educator, including classroom teachers, to register in their portal and use the CDLI's asynchronous course materials with their face-to-face students. While the CDLI does track the number of educators that are registered in the portal, an account in the system does not necessarily mean that the person uses the resources in their classroom. During the 2015-16 school year there were 7267 teacher registrations and 261 principal registrations in the CDLI portal.

Governance and Regulation

According to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, "distance education is delivered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation." As a component of the Department, it receives a block funding allocation from the provincial government that funds the administration, all teacher and staff salaries, course development activities, Internet/network connectivity costs for schools, K-12 technology integration for the provincial K-12 school system. The CDLI also purchases and deploys all hardware and software required for the delivery of its online learning program, including all required computer equipment, video-conferencing equipment and other learning resources that enhance the distance learning experience. Finally, the CDLI outlines a number of conditions that participating schools must accommodate in order to participate in the distance education program (e.g., accommodation of the school's schedule to the CDLI's timetable, the designation of one or more teachers or staff as mediating teachers or members of the mediating team, etc.).

At this time there is no language in the *Education Act* related to K-12 distance education. There are also no policies or regulations specifically related to K-12 distance education within the Ministry of Education beyond those utilized by the CDLI itself. The Ministry of Education continues to track the method of delivery that students complete their studies with, and this data is available through the *K-12 School Profile System*.