



3.8 Saskatchewan (SK)

Population: 1,171,240

Number of K-12 Schools: 747

Number of K-12 Students: 182,173

Number of K-12 E-Learning Programs: 15

Number of K-12 E-Learning Students: ~14,000

Governance and Regulation

Presently, the delivery of distance education, online learning, and blended learning in the province is guided by the Saskatchewan Technology in Education Framework (TEF), which outlines the roles and responsibilities of the education sector with regards to the use of technology in education. It contains a number of outcomes and indicators that guide the use of technology in the province in the areas of teaching and learning, administrative operations and infrastructure. In particular, the TEF states that school divisions ensure distance and online learning opportunities are available to students, that intra- and inter-school division learning opportunities are available to students with local support provided, that distance learners have success rates that are equivalent to students in traditional classroom environments, and that assistive technology and technical support is available to students with intensive needs and/or school personnel supporting them.

The Ministry is developing a policy for in-province distance learning, including provincial definitions for distance education, online learning, and blended learning. The Ministry will seek input from sector partners before finalizing the policy.

K-12 Distance and Online Learning Activity

The Ministry of Education coordinates a centralized online course directory – the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Course Repository. During the 2016-17 school year there were 13 school divisions, one associate school and one independent school listed in the repository.

The Ministry gathers data for students taking online distance education courses that count towards completion of a secondary diploma at the 10, 20, 30 levels (i.e., grades 10 to 12). During the 2017-18 school year, there were 13,305 course enrolments involving 7,738 unique secondary-level students with 8,698 credits earned.

Based on the most recent responses to the annual *Individual Program Survey*, 13 of the 15 e-learning programs collectively reported approximately 11,500 students engaged in some form of distance and/or online learning.

K-12 Blended Learning Activity

Blended learning is a responsibility of school divisions, as such the Ministry does not monitor this activity. Of those completing the annual *Individual Program Survey* there were only five

that indicated they had a blended learning program. Based on only those five responses, there were at least 2,300 students formally engaged in blended learning.