



Prince Edward Island (PE)

Population: 159,249

Number of K-12 Schools: 63

Number of K-12 Students: 20,131

Number of K-12 E-Learning Programs: 0

Number of K-12 E-Learning Students: 133

Governance and Regulation

While there is no reference to distance education in the *Education Act, 2016*, pursuant to section 8 of the *School Act, 1988*, there have been two Ministerial Directives concerning distance education (i.e., first *Ministerial Directive No. MD 2001-05*, which was superseded by *Ministerial Directive No. MD 2008-05*). According to MD 2008-05, distance education was defined as:

a mode of instruction in which the student and teacher are separated in either time or space or both, and where two-way communication takes place through non-traditional means for the most part. There is a broad range of both individualized and team instructional approaches and strategies used in distance education. Distance education communication may utilize various technologies and media, including but not limited to print, computers and computer networks, telecommunications, and audio-visual equipment and resources.

Internal regulations continue to be driven by this Ministerial Directives, which applies to courses delivered during the regular school day. The directive also outlines a series of beliefs about the nature of distance education instruction.

Additionally, individual schools and districts that participate in distance education programs must adhere to guidelines found in the provincial Distance Education Handbook document. The updated document specifies the use of distance education for students in particular circumstances.

K-12 Distance and Online Learning Activity

At present there are no K-12 distance education programs in Prince Edward Island.

Through an inter-provincial agreement students in Prince Edward Island are funded to take online courses from the New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. During the 2019-20 school year there were 12 French language students and approximately 121 English language students enrolled in online courses through this agreement.

K-12 Blended Learning Activity

According to the Department, there was no intentional blended learning (i.e., specific projects or initiatives) occurring in public schools.

Emergency Remote Teaching

Schools closed on March 23, 2020 and remote teaching began on April 6. The Ministry created a website of curricular resources, and print resources were also provided. There was no reference to the provision of devices or connectivity. There were attendance expectations and final report cards were issued.