



Saskatchewan (SK)

Population: 1,181,987

Number of K-12 Schools: 780

Number of K-12 Students: 186,036

Number of K-12 E-Learning Programs: 16

Number of K-12 E-Learning Students: 12,456

Governance and Regulation

At present, there is no reference to distance education, online learning, or blended education in the Education Act, 1995. In recent history, the delivery of distance education, online learning, and blended learning has been 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, in particular 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.

Beyond the legislative and regulatory environment, the Ministry of Education does coordinate a centralized directory of distance learning providers – the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Course Repository (see https://www.skdistancelearning.ca/webapps/moe-course_directory-BBLEARN/Home). The Ministry also tracks distance education/online learning registrations for Grades 10 to 12 leading to Grade 12 graduation, but it does not track distance education/online learning registrations prior to Grade 10.

K-12 Distance and Online Learning Activity

There are currently 16 provincial schools in 13 school divisions, one independent school, and one First Nation educational authority that are active and recognized K-12 online schools. During the 2019-20 school year, there were 13,666 course enrolments involving 8,138 unique students in Grades 10 to 12.

K-12 Blended Learning Activity

Blended learning is a responsibility of school divisions, as such the Ministry does not monitor this activity.

Emergency Remote Teaching

Schools closed on March 20, 2020 and remote teaching began on March 30. The Ministry of Education did not mandate remote teaching during the spring, and any remote learning opportunities offered to students were optional. The Ministry provided online resources for families through their Ministry website. School divisions offered multiple modes of delivery, as well as the delivery of learning packets and books for those with limited online access. Report cards were delivered, but the grades were frozen from March 13 with an opportunity to improve grades.