



Yukon (YT)

Population: 35,874

Number of K-12 Schools: 33

Number of K-12 Students: 5,456

Number of K-12 Distance Education Programs: 2

Number of K-12 Distance Education Students: 654

Governance and Regulation

The *Education Act, 2002* allows the Minister of Education to provide distance education courses and charge fees for students to access those courses. Distance education is defined as a program of study or course taken by a student where the content and resources are sent to the student to work through independently of a school.

While Yukon Education is supportive of territorial-based online and blended learning programs, the Department is still engaged in several memorandums of understanding with distance learning providers in other jurisdictions. In these instances, these memorandums provide an additional layer of regulation for schools to follow.

For the most part, distance education is funded in the same manner as brick-and-mortar education. However, parents may be eligible for reimbursement of essential school resources related to distance education and/or online learning as determined by the Deputy Minister.

K-12 Distance and Online Learning Activity

Aurora Virtual School is the only English-language online school in the territory and during the 2019-20 school year it enrolled 172 students in one or more of the 51 online courses it offered. The only French-language online program is École Nomade, which enrolled 17 students during the 2019-20 school year.

In addition, the Yukon still accesses programming from four distance learning schools in British Columbia, as well as the *Centre francophone d'éducation à distance* (CFED) in Alberta, for single courses or for full-time studies. During the 2019-20 school year, the four BC schools delivered courses to 35 grades 5-12 students. Additionally, there were 15 students enrolled in programming offered by CFED.

K-12 Blended Learning Activity

Yukon Education defines blended learning as a formal education program in which a student learns in part through digitally managed content, instruction and feedback and in part through face-to-face group activities at a supervised physical location away from home and with some element(s) of student control over time, place, path and/or pace.

The Department funds a learning management system (i.e., *Moodle*) and digital content, which is made available to each of the territory's schools. The Department also funds a portion of a Curriculum Technology Consultant whose responsibilities are dedicated to supporting blended learning and the provision of various hardware, software, and other supports.

Yukon Education uses the data from *Moodle* to formally track the number of students who are enrolled in at least one blended learning course. During the 2019-20 school year there were approximately 15% of grades 5-12 students from the territory's 30 schools involved in K-12 blended learning.

Emergency Remote Teaching

Schools closed on March 18, 2020 and remote teaching began on April 16. The Ministry of Education added a webpage to their website dedicated to continuing student learning at home with resources for students and parents. For students with limited access to digital devices or the internet, printed resources were provided in partnership with local communities. The Ministry provided a variety of resources and professional development for teachers. Teachers were required to maintain regular contact with students and families, report cards were issued, and there were attendance expectations for students.