



CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Administrative Regulation 6000 - Independent Students

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Preamble

Under the School Act, students who are 18 years of age or older, or 16 years of age or older and living independently or who are a party to an agreement under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act, are independent students.

Section 1(3) of the School Act says that an independent student is entitled to exercise all the rights and powers and receive all the benefits and is subject to all the obligations under the School Act that the student's parent is entitled to exercise or receive or is subject to those obligations, and the student's parent shall not exercise those rights, receive those benefits or be subject to those obligations.

This regulation sets out the process for establishing independent student status at the Calgary Board of Education.

Definitions

- 1** In this regulation “**independent student**” means a student who is
- (a) 18 years of age or older, or;
 - (b) 16 years of age or older and who
 - (i) in the opinion of the principal is living independently, or
 - (ii) is party to an agreement under section 57.2 of the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act.

- Request** **2** A student who is between 16 and 18 years of age and wishes to establish independent student status must notify the school principal in writing of the request to be considered an independent student.
- Criteria** **3(1)** In order to determine independent student status the principal must consider the following criteria.
- (a) Have the student’s parents or the student provided a statement in writing or a statutory declaration that the student is independent?
 - (b) Does the student demonstrate to the satisfaction of the principal that they make decisions with respect to day-to-day living?
 - (c) Does the student earn their own living or substantially contribute to their own maintenance or receive government financial support?
 - (d) Does the student handle major decisions such as medical treatment?
 - (e) Does the student make and maintain arrangements for living accommodation?
 - (f) Is the student married or co-habiting?
 - (g) Are any other factors that the principal considers relevant?
- (2) None of these criteria alone is a sole indicator of independence, but the response to all of them will assist the principal in determining whether or not a student is appropriately considered an independent student.
- (3) If the principal determines that the criteria are not met, the principal must advise the parents and student in writing of the principal’s decision.
- SIRS and change in status** **4(1)** If the principal determines that the criteria are met, then the student is recognized as an independent student and the principal must ensure that this information is entered into the Student Information System (SIRS).
- (2) If the student no longer meets the criteria for independent status, the student and parent must inform the school principal in writing of the change in status.
- (3) When the principal receives the notice that the student no longer has independent student status the principal must ensure that this information is entered into the Student Information System (SIRS).

Residency of independent student

- 5** An independent student is a resident student of the school board in which the student lives.

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2nd Amendment:	April 5, 2005
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References

Legal References:

- Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. C-12, Section 57.2
- School Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. S-3, sections 1(1)(m), 1(3) and 23(2)(b)