

COURSE CHALLENGE

Background

Some students are able to demonstrate a high level of achievement of the learning outcomes of a particular course without spending the required hours enrolled in the course. Ministry of Education is allowing students to challenge a maximum of two provincially developed courses at the 10 or 20 level for credit and to demonstrate the course requirements through a rigorous and comprehensive challenge process in order to move on to further learning.

In accordance with Ministry of Education requirements, the Director has outlined a course challenge process for students enrolled in the Division consistent with the procedures outlined by the Ministry.

Procedures

1. In keeping with Ministry of Education guidelines, the following restrictions apply:
 - 1.1 To challenge a course, the student must be enrolled in the Division.
 - 1.2 Students registered in home-based education with the Division may not challenge a course.
 - 1.3 Only provincially developed courses at the 10 and 20 level may be challenged.
 - 1.4 Each student may challenge a maximum of two courses.
2. General Requirements
 - 2.1 To challenge a course, the student must make a formal request to the principal and then submit the completed *Intent to Challenge Course* form to the school.
 - 2.2 Students requesting to challenge a course shall be provided with the *Intent to Challenge Course* form and an outline of the course challenge process including course outcomes, required evidence that demonstrates readiness to challenge, and assessment strategies to be administered in the course challenge process.
 - 2.3 The decision to proceed with a course challenge, by evaluating the *Intent to Challenge Course* form, will be made by a team of at least two individuals (to include the principal and the teacher who will administer the course challenge).
 - 2.4 A variety of assessment techniques that measure the level of student attainment of course objectives shall be included in the course challenge process.

- 2.5 Students shall attain a minimum of 80% through the course challenge process in order to be granted credit. The percentage mark attained will be recorded on the student's transcript.
- 2.6 Students who are not successful in the course challenge process shall not be allowed to challenge the same course a second time. In order to receive a credit for the course, these students will be required to register in and successfully complete the course.
- 2.7 The principal shall administer the course challenge process within Ministry of Education policy, procedures and guidelines and Division policy, procedures and guidelines.
- 2.8 A teacher who has previously taught the course at least twice (in different semesters/blocks – not concurrently) shall supervise the course challenge process.
- 2.9 Only courses offered within the Division within the current school year may be challenged.

Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 168, 169, 170, 175, 231 Education Act
Course Challenge Process: Policy and Procedures, Ministry of Education (2024-2029).

Updated: June 2016, February 2025