



# Administrative Regulations

## EDUCATION

2150

### ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

1. Alternative programs/courses are defined as those that include any or all of the following:
  - a. the suggested class size differs from the normal size for the age group;
  - b. additional financial support is required;
  - c. a need is identified for the recruitment of teachers with specialized skills other than those that would normally be found amongst teacher applicants;
  - d. the suggested curriculum is other than the usual British Columbia curriculum;
  - e. the location for the program/course is other than a school;
  - f. students are to be drawn from outside the catchment area of the suggested location;
  - g. specialized equipment is necessary to support the program/course;
  - h. the method of delivering the program/course is markedly different from normal classroom practices.
2. If any of these factors are present, Board approval of the program/course is required.
3. Requests to the Board for programs for the following year shall be presented to the board office by March 30TH of each year and provide answers to the following questions:
  - a. What evidence, if any, is there of the need or demand for the proposed program/course?
  - b. Is this an appropriate offering in public schools at the level suggested?
  - c. Is the program/course significantly different from existing ones?
  - d. Is the program/course supported by students, parents, staff and administration?
  - e. Has a sound educational rationale been developed and written?
  - f. Has a clear set of goals and learning outcomes been developed and written?
  - g. Is the proposed program/course congruent with the mission and goals of the province and the purpose and principles of the district?
  - h. Is the program/course consistent with the guidelines contained in relevant district policies, regulations, legal requirements and contracted agreements?
  - i. Are facilities and resources available to support the program/course in both the short and long term?
  - j. To what extent is the program/course accessible to all eligible students?
  - k. Does the program/course meet Ministry requirements regarding special needs students?
  - l. To what extent will the proposed program/course impact on other programs/courses? What research has been done to support assurances?
  - m. Is the proposed program/course capable of being offered in other schools?
  - n. Is the staff available to provide the specialized instruction required?
  - o. Have the developers identified available textbooks and/or materials?