

Office of the Minister

# Éducation et Développement de la petite enfance



Bureau du ministre Centre Holman 250, rue Water, pièce 101 Summerside Île-du-Prince-Édouard Canada C1N 1B6

# Holman Centre 250 Water Street, Suite 101 Summerside Prince Edward Island Canada C1N 1B6

# MINISTER'S DIRECTIVE NO. MD 2015-01

# Senior High School Graduation Requirements

Supersedes Ministerial Directive No. MD 2011-02

**Education** and

Early Childhood

Pursuant to Section 8 of the *School Act*, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. S-2.1, I hereby issue the following Minister's Directive concerning Senior High School Graduation Requirements.

### Option A - English Language School Board (English and French Immersion)

- 1. The minimum number of credits required for senior high school graduation (Grade 12) is twenty (20) credits.
- 2. The number of compulsory credits which a senior high school student must take to receive the Prince Edward Island Senior High School Graduation Certificate is twelve (12) credits. These compulsory credits must be taken from the following areas:
  - (a) 3 English credits, one of which must be ENG621A or ENG631A;
  - (b) 2 math credits; (Post-secondary institutions may require 3 or more math credits.)
  - (c) 2 science credits;
  - (d) 2 social studies credits, one of which must focus on Canadian social studies (CAS401A, GEO421A, HIS421F/J, LAW521A, LAW521F, LAW531A, HIS621A, HIS621B, or POL621A);
  - (e) 1 physical education credit (PED401A)\*;
  - (f) 1 career education and personal development credit (CEO401A or CAR421F)\*;
  - (g) 1 credit from a designated list that fosters creativity or innovation (see the Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials for list), or one of the following French language courses (FRE421A, FRE421F, FRE521A, FRE521F, FRE621A, or FRE621F).
  - (h) Successful completion of the Prince Edward Island Secondary Literacy Assessment.
  - \* Under exceptional circumstances, exemptions may be granted for PED401A or CEO401A/CAR401F. The English Language School Board shall forward all exemption requests to the Director of English Curriculum or the Director of French Curriculum at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for approval.
- 3. Students who leave school without fulfilling the requirements for the Provincial Senior High School Graduation Certificate may be given a Provincial Certificate of Accomplishment. In order to receive this certificate, a student shall require a minimum of twenty (20) credits, including:
  - (a) 3 language arts credits;
  - (b) 2 mathematics credits;
  - (c) 2 science credits;
  - (d) 2 social studies credits.

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Students who receive a Provincial Certificate of Accomplishment and return to school to complete additional credit courses at a later date will have their transcript updated accordingly. The Provincial Senior High School Graduation Certificate will be granted when students fulfill the appropriate requirements.

- 4. The number of Grade 12 level credits which a student is required to complete is five (5) full course credits.
- 5. Full-course credits will consist of 110 hours of instruction time. A student will be awarded a credit upon completion of the course and with a pass mark of 50%.
- 6. The requirements for entry into post-secondary institutions, apprenticeship programs, or the workplace may require additional and/or specific courses.

### Option B - French Language School Board

- 1. The minimum number of credits required for senior high school graduation (Grade 12) is 25 credits.
- 2. The number of compulsory credits which a senior high school student must take to receive the Provincial Senior High School Graduation Certificate is 15 credits. These compulsory credits must be taken from the following core areas:
  - (a) 5 French first language credits, one of which must be FRA621M or FRA631M;
  - (b) 3 math credits;
  - (c) 2 science credits;
  - (d) 2 social studies credits;
  - (e) 1 English credit (second official language);
  - (f) 1 career education credit
  - (g) I credit in arts, trades, technology, or health/physical education.

In addition to the above course requirements, successful completion of the Prince Edward Island Secondary Literacy Assessment.

- 3. The number of Grade 12 level credits which a student is required to complete is seven (7) full course credits. The French program does not include French immersion.
- 4. Full-course credits will consist of 92.5 hours of instruction time. A student will be awarded a credit upon achieving a pass mark of 50% in a course.
- 5. The requirements for entry into post-secondary institutions, apprenticeship programs, or the workplace may require additional and/or specific courses.

#### **General Statements**

- 1. No modification may be made to the credit value of provincial courses without the prior approval of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. If a change occurs in the number of hours required for a credit, this directive will be adjusted accordingly to reflect the time requirements outlined above.
- 2. A number of courses in senior high schools will have prerequisites. Please refer to the Senior High Program of Studies and List of Authorized Materials for specific course prerequisites.
- Senior high schools will be required to award the Prince Edward Island Senior High School
  Graduation Certificate to students who meet the provincial requirements. As well, school boards
  may award specific certificates to students to successfully complete the requirements for certain
  programs.
- 4. Provision for local programs will continue to exist, but these programs must have prior approval from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

DATED at Charlottetown, this 27th day of February, 2015.

Alan McIsaac, Minister

Education and Early Childhood Development