
General Information Bulletin 2025–2026

Grades 6 and 9
Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing



This document was written primarily for

Students

Teachers



Administrators



Parents

General Audience

General Information Bulletin 2025–2026 Grades 6 and 9 Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing

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The General Information Bulletin 2025–2026 Grades 6 and 9 Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing outlines policies, rules, and procedures in accordance with the [Provincial Assessment Directive](#). This directive is pursuant to section 18(4) of the *Education Act*. All changes to Alberta Education and Childcare requirements contained in this document are effective the first day of the school year as defined by the school authority.

If you plan to print the bulletin for reference, please note that changes may be made throughout the school year and the official finalized copy is that which is posted digitally on the Alberta Education and Childcare website.

The electronic version of the General Information Bulletin 2025–2026 Grades 6 and 9 Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing includes many links.

The Alberta Education and Childcare website continues to be updated. Links in the General Information Bulletin 2025–2026 Grades 6 and 9 Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing were checked for accuracy before publication but are subject to change. To report broken links, contact Alberta Education and Childcare as indicated below.

For suggested changes or questions regarding content, contact Provincial Assessment, Alberta Education and Childcare, by phone at 780-427-1857 or by email at exam.admin@gov.ab.ca. To be connected toll-free in Alberta, dial 310-0000 first.

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Introduction

Purpose of the bulletin

The bulletin serves the following purposes:

- to support school authorities and their staff in the administration and marking of provincial achievement tests (PATs); and
- to serve as the key policy, rules, and procedures repository, in accordance with the [Provincial Assessment Directive](#), respecting the assessment of persons.

Definitions and interpretations

In this document:

- **School** includes all learning environments in which PATs are administered by a school authority, including, but not limited to, a school as defined in the *Education Act* and a learning environment operated by an entity that has an agreement with Alberta Education and Childcare to administer the Literacy and Numeracy Screeners.
- **School authority** includes all entities responsible for the administration of PATs, including, but not limited to:
 - a board as defined in the *Education Act*;
 - a Francophone Regional Authority;
 - an operator and governing body of a charter school;
 - a person responsible for the operation of a First Nations or independent school; and
 - any entity that has an agreement with Alberta Education and Childcare to administer and make decisions regarding provincial achievement tests.
- **Superintendent*** is in accordance with the definition used in the *Education Act* and includes persons designated to supervise the operation of schools and the provision of education programs.
*This role also applies to First Nations Director of Education and heads of independent schools.
- **Principal** is in accordance with the definition used in the *Education Act* and includes all persons designated as a principal in the delivery and marking of provincial assessments. The principal is responsible for adhering to the policies, rules, and procedures in this document.
- **Teacher** is in accordance with the definition used in the *Education Act* and includes all persons who hold a teaching certificate involved in the delivery and marking of provincial assessments. The teacher is responsible for adhering to the policies, rules, and procedures in this document.
- **Student** is in accordance with the definition used in the *Education Act*.

Purpose of the Provincial Achievement Testing Program

The purpose of the provincial achievement testing program is to:

- determine if students are learning what they are expected to learn;
- report to Albertans how well students have achieved provincial standards at given points in their schooling; and
- assist schools, school authorities, and the province in monitoring and improving student learning.

Who may supervise a provincial achievement test?

Classroom teachers must administer and supervise provincial achievement tests (PATs). Substitute teachers are not permitted to independently supervise the administration of a PAT.

Available languages

PATs are administered annually in English Language Arts (and Literature), Français Langue Première et Littérature/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature (Grade 6), Français/French Language Arts (Grade 9), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies in grades 6 and 9. Grade 9 PATs based on the Knowledge and Employability programs of study in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies are also administered. French versions of all Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies PATs are available for Grade 6 and Grade 9 students in Francophone and French immersion programs.

Who is expected to write provincial achievement tests?

Students registered in grades 6 and 9, and ungraded students in their sixth and ninth years of schooling, shall write PATs, with the following considerations:

1. Only a superintendent, on an individual basis, may excuse a student from writing a PAT for the following reasons:
 - a. the student is unable to access the provincial assessment in its original form, or with accommodations and/or unique accommodations due to behavioural, intellectual, learning, communication, or physical characteristics or any combination of any of them that impair the student's ability and opportunity to learn; and
 - b. participation would be harmful to the student.
2. The principal, in consultation with the parent/guardian and the teacher, shall recommend to the superintendent that the student be excused from writing. A copy of the documentation in support of the recommendation, including the student's Individual Program Plan, if applicable, shall remain in the school.
3. If a parent withdraws a student from participation, the school indicates the student is absent on the List of Students. A copy of the parent's letter indicating that the student will not be participating shall remain in the school.
4. Students who are repeating grades 6 or 9 shall write PATs in their repeating year.
5. Students enrolled in an Alberta accredited school shall write PATs.

Home education students

Students enrolled in home education programs that are supervised by a school authority may write the PATs. If, in the judgment of the parent, a home education student's performance will be adversely affected by taking the PATs at a school, an alternate location, such as the home, may be used. Although Alberta's online assessment platform is able to ensure digital security, it does not have adequate supervisory requirements. To be eligible to write in a location alternate to a school, a supervisor commensurate with a certificated teacher must administer the PAT.

A parent cannot administer the PATs. The parent may, however, remain in the room while a student is taking the PATs. A relative, friend, or person residing at the same address as the student cannot administer the PATs to that student. In special circumstances, however, the superintendent may approve a member of the community commensurate with a certificated teacher to administer the PATs to the student.

Home education students are included in the greater cohort of students participating in school authority results reports to stakeholders.

Out-of-cohort students

Alberta Education and Childcare's expectation is that all students registered in grades 6 and 9, and ungraded students in their sixth and ninth years of schooling, write PATs. In some circumstances (such as multi-grade classrooms or accelerated programs), students may be receiving the programs of study in grades 5 or 8 and write the PATs out of their cohort. School staff may request that the results for out-of-cohort students count as official marks and no rewriting be required when they reach Grade 6 or 9.

To accommodate these situations, schools are asked to email the no-rewriting request by the deadline specified on the [Provincial Achievement Tests](#) website to exam.admin@gov.ab.ca with a list of students (including names and Alberta Student Numbers) indicating which subject(s) out-of-cohort students will write in a year before they reach Grade 6 or 9.

Upon receiving the request, Alberta Education and Childcare will treat these out-of-cohort students as part of the Grade 6 or 9 cohort for the subject(s) they write and include their results in the Grade 6 or 9 PAT reports for the school and school authority in the year they write. When these out-of-cohort students reach Grade 6 or 9, they will not be required to rewrite the subject(s) they wrote before.

If schools do not submit no-rewriting requests by the deadline or choose to have students writing PAT(s) out-of-cohort as an unofficial attempt, schools should write "Out-of-Cohort" with the list of student names and Alberta Student Numbers in the principal kit. Consequently, these out-of-cohort students' PAT results will not count as official marks and will not be included in the school and school authority reports for the subject(s) they wrote. When these students reach Grade 6 or 9, they will have to rewrite the subject(s) they wrote before in addition to the subjects they did not write in the previous year.

Students' PAT results count as official marks and are included in the school and school authority reports only once, no matter which option is chosen. If a school would like students first to write PAT(s) out-of-cohort before they reach Grade 6 or 9 and then rewrite the same PAT(s) when they reach Grade 6 or 9, schools must communicate with parents and students about the out-of-cohort writing and its consequences sufficiently in advance of the PAT writing.

Improving student learning

Careful examination and interpretation of the provincial achievement testing program results can help reveal areas of relative strength and areas for growth in student achievement. Teachers and administrators can use this information in planning and delivering relevant and effective instruction in relation to learning outcomes in Alberta's new K–6 curriculum and existing K–12 programs of study.

***NEW** New curriculum and provincial achievement tests

In 2025-26, schools **not** implementing the new Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum will continue to write the current *Grade 6 Social Studies PAT*.

Schools that are optionally implementing the new Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum will not write the current PAT. Instead, they are encouraged to participate in field testing between April and June 2026. These field tests will help inform the development of future PATs aligned with the new curriculum.

Requests for not participating in the *Grade 6 Social Studies PAT* due to participation in optional implementation of new curriculum **must** be submitted by filling out this [survey](#) before the date specified in [Significant Dates at a Glance](#).

The 2025-26 Grade 6 Mathematics, Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature (ELAL), Grade 6 Science, French Immersion Language Arts and Literature (FILAL), and Français Langue Première et Littérature (FLPL) PATs **will be administered** and will reflect fully implemented curriculum.

Interpreting reporting results

Alberta Education and Childcare and school authority personnel are responsible for ensuring that high-quality education is provided to all students in the province. Although the provincial achievement testing program provides high-quality information, it cannot provide all the information that school staff need to know about students' achievement. Many factors contribute to student achievement overall. School and school authority results from provincial assessments are best interpreted within the context of local quantitative and qualitative information. Personnel at the school authority and school levels are in the best position to appropriately interpret, use, and communicate school authority and school results in the local context.

Information about student performance on PATs is provided to school staff, school authorities, parents, and the public so that they may know how well students in their schools are meeting local targets and provincial expectations. Group results for fewer than six students are reported to the school and school authority but are not reported publicly.

Subject-specific PAT information

Detailed information for each subject area is available in the [Provincial Achievement Testing Program Subject Bulletins](#).

Summary of Revisions for the 2025-26 School Year

The following major revisions have been made.

All major changes for the 2025-26 school year are indicated by ***NEW**.

Other minor updates have been made throughout this bulletin; however, they are not noted here.

Topic	Changes Made	Location
Administration dates	Provincial achievement tests (PATs) must be administered in accordance with the published schedule.	Provincial achievement test administration schedules
New K-6 curriculum	<p>A new <i>Grade 6 Social Studies PAT</i>, based on new optionally implemented curriculum, will not be administered in the 2025-26 school year. Schools implementing new curriculum are encouraged to participate in field testing that will occur in April to June 2026.</p> <p>Grade 6 Science, French Immersion Language Arts and Literature, and Français Langue Première et Littérature PATs will be administered in the 2025-26 school year.</p>	New curriculum and provincial achievement tests
Public access to results	PAT results for new curriculum in Grade 6 Science, French Immersion Language Arts and Literature/Français Langue Première et Littérature, English Language Arts and Literature, and Mathematics may be modified from the normal reporting information available.	Reporting Provincial Achievement Test Results
Teacher perusals	Information on the process for perusals has been updated.	Provincial Achievement Test Rules and Policies
Marking written responses and selected responses	Information related to marking, reporting, and scoring on the digital assessment platform has been modified.	Local and Central Marking of Provincial Achievement Tests
Audio accommodations	Information regarding audio in the digital assessment platform has been added. Please note that MP3 audio files will be discontinued starting in the 2025-26 school year. Students requiring audio accommodations must use the text-to-speech feature available on the digital assessment platform or receive support from a human reader.	PATs Using Accommodations and Provisions
Surveys	A single PAT Survey now allows schools to indicate optional new curriculum implementation and request early PAT administration dates.	Appendix 1

Digital Assessment Platform

Background

***NEW**

Alberta Education and Childcare has enhanced provincial student assessments by implementing the [digital assessment platform \(DAP\)](#) in the 2025-26 school year. The platform will modernize student assessment experiences by taking advantage of the benefits digital assessment offers compared to traditional pencil-and-paper tests.

With a move to digital assessments, students will see more multimedia-rich, interactive content and will be able to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in different ways. The digital assessment platform offers a wider range of built-in learning supports and accommodations, resulting in an improved, more inclusive test-taking experience for students.

Starting in the 2025-26 school year, all Grade 6 and Grade 9 PATs are fully implemented on the DAP.

To access the digital assessment platform, principals need to contact ae.helpdesk@gov.ab.ca to request an invitation. Once they have set up an account, they can add other staff at the school. For questions about the digital assessment platform, please refer to the [Help](#) page or contact online.assessment@gov.ab.ca.

Paper copies of PATs

Starting in the 2025-26 school year, Provincial Assessment will cease all printing and distribution activities for Grade 6 and 9 PATs. Students are expected to use the digital assessment platform to complete provincial achievement tests.

***NEW**

- If a **student** is unable to write a PAT on the digital assessment platform because using computers is not part of their normal classroom instruction and assessment experience, the school may make a request to the superintendent or designate that the student write the paper version of the PAT.
 - Schools will print a paper version generated from the digital assessment platform via the school administrator dashboard no more than five days before the administration of the exam.
 - This printed version will not be identical to the digital version because of technology-enhanced questions.
 - Part A written-response paper tests will require students to use the Alberta Education and Childcare response sheets, and schools will scan and upload the hand-written responses to the digital assessment platform within five days of the completion of the exam.
 - Machine-scored paper tests will require school personnel to log into the digital assessment platform and transcribe students' answers on the digital version of the student's PAT.
- If a school authority has entire **schools** with special circumstances that require all students to write their PATs on paper, the authority must make a request for those schools by completing the [Paper Request Form](#).

Upon acceptance of the request, schools will receive instructions on how to print the PAT from the digital assessment platform. Students using a paper-format humanities Part(ie) A will not have access to a word processor and must handwrite their responses on the Alberta Education and Childcare response sheets provided by the test supervisor.

Provincial Achievement Test Administration Schedules

Grade 6 and 9 PATs are to be administered on specific dates in accordance with the Alberta Education and Childcare's schedules. Requests to administer PATs earlier than the scheduled date must be communicated by filling out the [survey](#) by the date specified in [Significant Dates at a Glance](#). Requests will be reviewed by the Director, Exam Administration.

Requests for early dates will only be considered if one of the following conditions is met:

Condition	Submission requirements
School follows an alternate calendar that ends prior to or on scheduled administration dates (e.g., last day of school is June 19).	Rationale Proposed alternate date(s) by subject Official school calendar
Unforeseen local circumstances preventing the administration of the tests (e.g., school building closure due to mechanical failure).	Circumstance Proposed alternate date(s) by subject

Examples of reasons not eligible for requesting early dates include (but not limited to):

- school activities (e.g., athletic sporting events, field trips)
- local community events; or
- professional development days.

***NEW** Students who are absent on the scheduled day of a PAT are expected to write the test upon their return. Later writing dates are permitted only for students who were absent on the original test day. All PATs must be completed by the final scheduled administration date. In case of early departure at the end of the school year, students may NOT write PATs prior to the administration dates on which their classmates are scheduled to write.

Impact of state of emergencies on the administration of provincial achievement tests

In the event of a school evacuation or significant disruption to learning due to a declared state of emergency immediately prior to or during an administration based on a superintendent's discretion, the writing of Grade 6 and Grade 9 PATs may be rescheduled or cancelled. This decision shall be made in consultation with Alberta Education and Childcare. Superintendents are required to contact the Exam Administration Branch in the Provincial Assessment Sector at Alberta Education and Childcare at exam.admin@gov.ab.ca if their school authority is in this situation.

***NEW** For Language Arts Part A: Writing Provincial Achievement Tests, teacher supervisors, under the direction of the principal, are expected to uphold PAT security by maintaining a continuous writing time. If it is required, based on individual student needs or that of the entire class, the supervising teacher, upon approval from the principal, may administer a short, supervised break that maintains test security, during which time students cannot access personal electronic devices. Assessments are to be paused on the digital assessment platform, and students are not to log out of the lockdown browser. The time of the break is not included in the total provincial achievement test administration time. All PAT administration rules and policies must be maintained during the entirety of the exam.

January 2026 Update

The January provincial achievement tests have been cancelled for students at all school authorities, including public, separate, francophone, charter and independent schools.

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

January 2026		
Thursday, January 15	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Monday, January 19	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Tuesday, January 20	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Wednesday, January 21	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B
		Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Thursday, January 22	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Friday, January 23	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Monday, January 26	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science
		Grade 9 K&E Science
Tuesday, January 27	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies

All Grade 9 PATs and testing materials administered in January are **secure** before and after the administration and must continue to **remain secured until after the June administration**. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

***NEW** A new *Grade 6 Social Studies PAT*, based on optionally implemented new curriculum in the 2025-26 school year, will **not** be administered in 2025-26. Schools implementing new Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum in 2025-26 are encouraged to participate in field testing in April through June 2026. These field tests will help inform the development of future PATs for this Grade 6 subject that aligns with new curriculum. Schools not implementing new Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum are expected to write the current *Grade 6 Social Studies PAT*.

May and June 2026

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

May 2026		
Tuesday, May 19	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie A
Wednesday, May 20	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Thursday, May 21	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Friday, May 22	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part A
June 2026		
Wednesday, June 3	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature /French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie B
Thursday, June 4	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part B
Monday, June 8	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Tuesday, June 9	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B
		Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Thursday, June 11	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Social Studies
Friday, June 12	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Science
Monday, June 15	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Tuesday, June 16	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Thursday, June 18	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) B
Friday, June 19	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Monday, June 22	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies
Tuesday, June 23	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science
		Grade 9 K&E Science

No tests scheduled on June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day.

January 2027

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

January 2027		
Monday, January 18	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Tuesday, January 19	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Wednesday, January 20	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Thursday, January 21	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B
		Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Friday, January 22	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Monday, January 25	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Tuesday, January 26	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science
		Grade 9 K&E Science
Wednesday, January 27	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies

All Grade 9 PATs and testing materials administered in January are **secure** before and after the administration and must continue to **remain secured until after the June administration**. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

June 2027

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

June 2027		
Monday, May 31	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie A
Tuesday, June 1	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Wednesday, June 2	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part A
Thursday, June 3	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Friday, June 4	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part B
Monday, June 7	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Tuesday, June 8	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B
		Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Wednesday, June 9	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature /French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie B
Thursday, June 10	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Social Studies
Friday, June 11	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Science
Monday, June 14	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Tuesday, June 15	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Wednesday, June 16	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) B
Thursday, June 17	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Friday, June 18	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies
Tuesday, June 22	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science
		Grade 9 K&E Science

No tests scheduled on June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day.

***NEW** January 2028 (Draft)

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

January 2028 (Draft)

Friday, January 14	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Tuesday, January 18	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Wednesday, January 19	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Thursday, January 20	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B
		Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Friday, January 21	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Monday, January 24	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Tuesday, January 25	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science
		Grade 9 K&E Science
Thursday, January 27	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies

All Grade 9 PATs and testing materials administered in January are **secure** before and after the administration and must continue to **remain secured until after the June administration**. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

***NEW June 2028 (Draft)**

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

June 2028 (Draft)

Thursday, June 1	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie A
Friday, June 2	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Monday, June 5	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part A
Tuesday June 6	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Friday, June 9	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature /French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie B
Monday, June 12	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part B
Tuesday, June 13	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Wednesday, June 14	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Thursday, June 15	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Social Studies
Friday, June 16	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Science
Monday, June 19	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Tuesday, June 20	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Thursday, June 22	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) B
Friday, June 23	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Monday, June 26	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies
Tuesday, June 27	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science Grade 9 K&E Science

No tests scheduled on June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day.

***NEW January 2029 (Draft)**

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

January 2029 (Draft)

Thursday, January 18	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Friday, January 19	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Tuesday, January 23	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Wednesday, January 24	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B
		Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Thursday, January 25	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Friday, January 26	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Monday, January 29	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science
		Grade 9 K&E Science
Tuesday, January 30	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies

All Grade 9 PATs and testing materials administered in January are **secure** before and after the administration and must continue to **remain secured until after the June administration**. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

***NEW June 2029 (Draft)**

All students are provided with up to double the official scheduled time allotted as noted below if they require it.

June 2029 (Draft)

Tuesday, June 5	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie A
Wednesday, June 6	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Thursday, June 7	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part A
Friday, June 8	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A
	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Monday, June 11	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature /French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie B
Tuesday, June 12	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part B
Wednesday, June 13	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Thursday, June 14	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Friday, June 15	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Social Studies
Monday, June 18	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Science
Tuesday, June 19	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Wednesday, June 20	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Friday, June 22	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) B
Monday, June 25	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Tuesday, June 26	9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies
	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 K&E Social Studies
Wednesday, June 27	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science Grade 9 K&E Science

No tests scheduled on June 21, National Indigenous Peoples Day.

Security of Provincial Achievement Testing Materials

Unless otherwise designated, all provincial achievement tests (PATs) and testing materials are secured before, during, and after the PAT administration and must be handled accordingly.

No secured PAT, written-response exemplar, or other secured testing material may be kept at a school or school authority office following the PAT administration. Copying of any secured PAT material in whole or in part is prohibited.

After each PAT administration, the principal must complete the declaration on the Principal's Statement attesting that the security requirements outlined in this bulletin have been met.

Access to provincial achievement tests and materials

Students may only access secured PAT materials while writing the PATs.

***NEW**

No notes about, or copies of, PAT questions may be made during or after the viewing of a secured PAT. It is a contravention of security and provincial achievement testing program rules to create, use, or distribute PAT questions that imitate or closely resemble secured PAT questions in appearance, content, or style. Failure to comply with these rules may constitute unprofessional conduct in relation to section 1(c) of the [Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers and Teacher Leaders](#).

Following the administration of PATs, teachers may access Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature, Français Langue Première et Littérature/ French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Part(ie) A PATs and Grade 9 English Language Arts, Français/French Language Arts Part(ie) A PATs for the purpose of marking and reporting.

***NEW**

Printing of students' written responses

Following the PAT administration, teachers may print from the digital assessment platform a student's writing of the Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature, Français Langue Première et Littérature/ French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Part(ie) A PATs and the Grade 9 English Language Arts, Français/ French Immersion Language Arts Part(ie) A PATs for inclusion in the student's portfolio of the year's work. Copies may also be made for parents who request them. All printing must remain secure until after the June administration.

Security status of January provincial achievement tests and materials

All Grade 9 PATs and testing materials administered in January are **secure** before and after the administration and must continue to **remain secured until after the June administration**. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

Security status of June Part A provincial achievement tests and materials

All English, Français, and French Language Arts Part(ie) A exemplars are **secure** before and after administration in June.

The Part(ie) A PATs for Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature, Français Langue Première et Littérature/ French Immersion Language Arts and Literature, Grade 9 English Language Arts, Français/ French Immersion Language Arts, and K&E English Language Arts written in June are unsecured after the PAT administration.

Released questions

Released questions are available on the [Provincial Achievement Tests](#) website and on the digital assessment [platform](#).

Provincial Achievement Test Rules and Policies

The provincial achievement test (PAT) rules and policies listed below apply to the administration of all PATs.

Provincial achievement test supervision

- *NEW 1. All PATs must be administered in accordance with the instructions specified for each PAT. This is the key responsibility of supervising teachers. Substitute teachers are not permitted to independently supervise the administration of a PAT.
- 2. Supervising teachers must not provide additional support, clarification, or feedback to any students regarding the contents of the PAT outside of what is included in the instructions pages or as outlined in the General Information Bulletin.
- 3. Supervising teachers must **actively** supervise the writing of PATs. Supervision must be distraction-free and focused on student behaviour during the administration.
- 4. Supervisors are not to make or encourage changes or alterations of any kind to the responses made by students on their responses during or after the PAT administration.
- 5. Teachers and supervising teachers must not share or discuss the contents of any secured PATs.
- 6. Except for student written responses, teachers are not permitted to copy or share any portion nor take notes of any portion of a PAT.
- *NEW 7. Failure to comply with these rules may constitute unprofessional conduct in relation to section 1(c) of the [Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers and Teacher Leaders](#).

Discussion and sharing

1. Students may not communicate in any way with one another during or after the administration of a PAT unless specifically permitted to do so as part of the assessment activity.
2. Students may not share or exchange any PAT materials while in the PAT writing room unless specifically permitted to do so as part of the assessment activity.
3. Once a PAT administration has officially started, students may not discuss the PAT with the supervising teacher.

Alberta Student Number

All students must have and use a valid Alberta Student Number when writing PATs.

Entrance into and exit from the provincial achievement test writing room

Students may not enter or leave the PAT writing room without the consent of the supervising teacher. Students who must leave the PAT writing room for an unscheduled break while the PAT administration is underway must be accompanied by an available supervisor or other teacher. Students may not have access to personal devices during a break. Assessments must be paused on the digital assessment platform and students are not to exit the locked browser. Students must not be left alone in the writing room.

Materials allowed in the provincial achievement test writing room

1. The only student materials that are allowed to be used while writing a particular PAT are those specified in the [subject bulletin](#) for that PAT.

Materials not allowed in the provincial achievement test writing room

1. All classroom materials in a PAT writing room that could provide assistance to a student writing a PAT, other than those materials specifically noted in the subject bulletins, must be removed or covered.
2. No notes in any form, papers, informal dictionaries, electronic dictionaries, or books relating to a PAT may be brought into the PAT writing room or used by a student unless expressly permitted to do so by the PAT administration instructions.
3. No electronic or paper templates and/or graphic organizers are allowed for the written-response component of PATs.
4. Students may not bring into the PAT writing room cellphones, wearable technology, Bluetooth® devices (e.g., Bluetooth® headphones), or other electronic devices. Bluetooth® hearing aids and other devices used to monitor and support health or medical conditions are acceptable to have in the examination room, but the connection source must be monitored by the school.

***NEW** Teacher perusals

Teacher perusals will take place under the supervision of a school administrator using the administrator dashboard in the digital assessment platform (DAP).

1. Teachers may provide feedback on PAT questions using the digital perusal copy on the digital assessment platform.
2. When perusing the PAT, teachers may not copy, post, or share in any manner any content of a test. All questions are secured, and copies may not be made.
3. At the conclusion of the perusal session, teachers must collect and securely shred all notes.

Failure to comply with these rules may constitute unprofessional conduct in relation to section 1(c) of the [Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers and Teacher Leaders](#).

For specific instructions on how to access perusals, please see the Perusal Guide on the [Help](#) page of the digital assessment platform.

Contraventions of Provincial Achievement Test Security, Rules, and Policies

Managing student contravention of test security, rules, and/or policies

In the event of a contravention of test security, rules, or policies, a student must be permitted to finish their test. The student must also provide a written statement about the incident before being dismissed from the school. Immediately following the administration and marking of a provincial achievement test (PAT), the principal must report any incidents involving a breach of test security—such as student interference with PATs or supporting materials—to the Director, Exam Administration and the school authority superintendent. This report must include a detailed account of the circumstances surrounding the incident. The report must communicate how the student(s) violated PAT rules or policies, falsified PAT responses or results, or committed any other act that may enable the student(s) to fraudulently represent their or another student's PAT performance.

Where the above is suspected, an investigation must be conducted and include: (a) information detailing the allegation and series of events and (b) a statement from the student.

The school authority, after conducting an investigation, shall decide whether to recommend:

- a. releasing the examinee's results, or
- b. invalidating the examinee's results.

The school authority shall report the decision to the Director, Exam Administration, and provide in writing a recommendation to release or invalidate the examinee's results.

Administrative irregularity

An administrative irregularity refers to an error in the administration of a provincial achievement test (PAT). Principals are responsible for establishing, implementing, and communicating response protocols that support the effective management of:

- emergencies such as power outages, digital assessment platform functionality issues, or administering the wrong exam (subject or language), in alignment with PAT administration rules; and
- the PAT Confirmation site to ensure correct PATs are administered.

In the event of an emergency that interferes with the administration of a PAT, the school is to contact Alberta Education and Childcare immediately. Principals are to report any administrative irregularities on the principal kit.

Request for reconsideration

A student who has had a PAT result invalidated may request the decision be reconsidered within 30 days of the decision rendered. The Executive Director, Provincial Assessment, will only reconsider an official decision to invalidate student results if the request includes (a) the [Request for Reconsideration of an Invalidation](#) form and (b) new supporting official documentation that will assist the Executive Director, Provincial Assessment, in the review to change the original status of the decision.

Upon receiving a request for reconsideration, the Executive Director, Provincial Assessment, shall assess whether new relevant evidence has been provided and:

- if new relevant evidence has been provided, render a decision based on all the evidence; or
- if new relevant evidence has not been provided, refuse to reconsider the original decision.

The Executive Director, Provincial Assessment, shall notify the parent/guardian in writing of the decision.

A person aggrieved by a reconsidered decision may appeal the decision in writing to the Minister within 30 days after notification of the decision.

Using Calculators

Background

Provincial achievement tests (PATs) are developed to reflect the learning outcomes and expectations specified in Alberta's programs of study for each subject including those that relate to the use of calculators.

To ensure compatibility with provincial programs of study and fairness and equity to all students, mathematics and science PATs must be administered in accordance with the rules that follow. For further information about the use of calculators when writing PATs, see the subject bulletins for each subject available on Alberta Education and Childcare's website.

Rules

1. Mathematics and science PATs may only be administered with the use of calculators as follows:
 - Grade 6 Mathematics
 - Part(ie) A: Use of calculators is not permitted.
 - Part(ie) B: Use of calculators is not permitted.
 - Grade 9 Mathematics
 - Part(ie) A: Use of calculators is not permitted.
 - Part(ie) B: Students may use calculators; however, use of graphing calculators is not permitted.
 - Knowledge and Employability Mathematics
 - Students may use calculators; however, use of graphing calculators is not permitted.
 - Grade 6 Science
 - Use of calculators is **not** permitted.
 - Grade 9 Science
 - Students may use calculators; however, use of graphing calculators is not permitted.
2. Students may bring approved calculators and extra batteries into the PAT writing room *for their exclusive use* when writing a mathematics or science PAT.
3. The following calculator materials, properties, and/or configurations are **not** permitted in the PAT writing room:
 - programmed memory content;
 - built-in notes, libraries, or formulae (e.g., definitions or explanations in alpha notation);
 - upgraded or downloaded programs;
 - remote communication capability;
 - symbolic manipulation capabilities;
 - algebraic expression manipulation;
 - external (peripheral) devices and other support materials such as manuals, printed or electronic cards, printers, memory expansion chips or cards, external keyboards; and
 - calculator cases.

Provincial Achievement Tests Using Accommodations and Provisions

Policy

Students unable to access the provincial assessment in its original form may use regular accommodations and/or unique accommodations. Instructional accommodations are designed to address specific areas for academic growth and/or barriers that may be impacting the ability of individual learners to engage in learning opportunities including provincial assessments.

Regular accommodations

The accommodations listed under Regular accommodation types, for the purpose of writing provincial achievement tests (PATs), are reviewed and managed by school personnel. Students are eligible for regular accommodations and provisions without an application process.

Students must use the accommodation during regular classroom instruction and assessment.

Students must understand and adhere to the accommodations and provision administration rules and procedures of writing a PAT with the use of accommodations and provisions.

Decisions rendered by school personnel are official and must be communicated to the parent/guardian. Parents/guardians must contact the school authority should they wish to dispute the decision rendered.

Students in a home education program supervised by a school authority (funded)

Students in a home education program supervised by a school authority are eligible for accommodations and provisions. To ensure the writing centre is prepared for students in a home education program to write PATs with accommodations and provisions, the parents/supervisors of students in a home education program must contact the principals of the writing centre directly before the administration.

Provincial Achievement Tests Using Accommodations and Provisions

Regular Accommodation Type and Number	Rules	Process
1. Text to Speech (TTS) for visually impaired students	Students who have a visual impairment who use TTS throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs. Please note that MP3 audio files will be discontinued starting in the 2025-26 school year.	School adds accommodation for the student in the digital assessment platform.
2. Text to Speech (TTS) for regular classroom use	Students who use TTS throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs. Please note that MP3 audio files will be discontinued starting in the 2025-26 school year.	School adds accommodation for the student in the digital assessment platform.
3. Multiplication tables (10x10 Math 9; 12x12 Math 6)	Students who use multiplication tables throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School adds accommodation for the student in the digital assessment platform. This can also be printed by staff directly from the Provincial Achievement Tests website.
4. Scribe	<p>A scribe is intended for one individual student, who uses a scribe regularly, to record a student's written response directly into the digital assessment platform exactly as the student dictates.</p> <p>A scribe may not improve the student's response by rewording, correcting grammar, adding punctuation, indicating paragraphs, or otherwise changing a student's answer. They may confirm what the student has said by reading it back for clarification.</p> <p>A scribe may not ask leading questions or provide suggestions or interpretations of any kind.</p> <p>The student shall review the scribed work and request changes if necessary. The student must verify and edit, if required, the scribed text.</p> <p>The time required for verification and editing must be included in the PAT writing time.</p>	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.
5. Large print	Students who use large print throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School staff request large-print via survey by the deadline found in Significant Dates at a Glance and then print locally from the DAP.

Regular Accommodation Type and Number	Rules	Process
6. Braille	Students who use Braille throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School staff order a Braille version via survey by the deadline found in Significant Dates at a Glance .
7. Reader	<p>One reader may read the PAT to a maximum of 7 students who use this accommodation regularly, while maintaining a reasonable pace to meet the needs of all students.</p> <p>Students receiving targeted and specialized interventions may still require one-to-one support.</p> <p>Without leading the student, the reader must be aware of and obey all punctuation and must read in such a way that the student understands the use and purpose of the punctuation.</p> <p>They must not prompt or guide the student. They must not ask leading questions or provide suggestions, interpretations, or word definitions of any kind.</p> <p>They may repeat readings as often as necessary and must read consistently each time.</p>	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.
8. Sign language interpreter	<p>The interpreter is a person who interprets a spoken message into American Sign Language or into one of the Manually Coded English Systems for a student with hearing loss.</p> <p>For purposes of interpreting for a PAT, a sign language interpreter may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • voice what is signed by a student; and • interpret all words spoken during the exam period that are intended for all students. <p>They must interpret consistently, always conveying the content and spirit of the spoken word using the signed language most readily understood by the student. They must not provide definitions or interpret beyond conveying the spoken/written message. They must not counsel, advise, interject personal opinions or ask leading questions, provide suggestions, or provide coaching of any kind.</p> <p>All questions raised by the student must be directed to the PAT supervisor. The interpreter must interpret spoken and signed messages between the student and the supervisor.</p>	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.

Regular Accommodation Type and Number	Rules	Process
9. Transcriber of recorded response	<p>Recorded responses must be transcribed into the digital assessment platform before submitting the student's PAT.</p> <p>The student must verify and edit, if required, the transcribed text.</p> <p>The time required for verification and editing must be included in the allocated writing time.</p>	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.
10. Coloured paper and overlays	Students who use overlays for classroom testing will have this feature available on the digital assessment platform.	School staff add this accommodation in the digital assessment platform.
11. Speech to Text	Students who use speech to text throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School staff implement this accommodation on the student's device in advance of the PAT in a separate writing area.

Scribes, readers, sign language interpreters, or transcribers must not be appointed when they are a relative, friend, student peer at the school or attending another school, or past or present teacher of the student writing a PAT. They are expected to adhere to all rules and procedures outlined in this document. If the student has a question or a query, the student is to be directed to the supervisor.

Alberta Education and Childcare is not responsible for the appointment of any support staff including scribes, readers, sign language interpreters, or transcribers, nor is Alberta Education and Childcare responsible for expenses incurred in appointing these individuals.

Unique accommodations

Accommodations used by students for classroom instruction and assessment but not listed as regular accommodation types are considered unique accommodations. The review of unique accommodations is delegated by the Director, Exam Administration to the Special Cases and Accommodations team.

Each application for unique accommodations will be reviewed individually, based on its specific circumstances and merits.

The Special Cases and Accommodations team encourages school staff to reach out as early as possible to discuss potential accommodations and options for provincial assessments. This team is dedicated to assisting students, families, and school staff in exploring alternative approaches to accessing provincial assessments. Depending on the completeness and clarity of the information submitted, the following actions may be taken.

Deficiency Notification: The accommodation request has been received; however, the supporting documentation is incomplete. The specific supporting documentation needed to complete the review will be outlined and sent by email.

Case Suspended: The material required for review has not been received by the deadline provided. An official case decision has not been rendered. Cases can be reopened once all additional information requested has been submitted.

Request for Reconsideration of an Official Case Decision: Reconsiderations are reviewed by the Executive Director, Provincial Assessment. Review of an official decision will be reconsidered if the request is submitted within 30 days of notification of the original decision and includes (a) the [Request for Reconsideration of a Unique Accommodation Decision](#) form and (b) new supporting official documentation that will assist the Executive Director.

Process to submit requests for unique accommodations

Step 1: School staff prepare and submit the [Unique Accommodations](#) form and supporting documentation, such as an Individual Program Plan (IPP).

Step 2: The Director, Exam Administration, or an assigned member of the Special Cases and Accommodations team, reviews, processes, and communicates an official response for each request.

Step 3: School staff communicate the official response to the student and family members in writing.

Step 4: (Request for Reconsideration, only if required) School staff prepare and submit the Request for Reconsideration of a Unique Accommodation Decision form and new supporting official documentation. The original decision may be reconsidered once only.

A person aggrieved by a reconsidered decision may appeal the decision in writing to the Minister within 30 days after notification of the decision.

Special arrangement

A special arrangement is a provision for the purpose of writing PATs that is managed and applied at the school level. Any student who demonstrates the need for this arrangement can be granted this provision for writing a PAT without an application process to Alberta Education and Childcare.

Special Arrangement	Eligible Population	Process Required	Notes
Additional time	All students	School staff implement this arrangement.	All students are permitted twice the official time limit to write a PAT if they require it.
Frequent breaks	Student uses this accommodation.	School staff implement this arrangement.	Timer is stopped by the PAT supervisor as student needs and is resumed following supervised break. Regular supervision rules still apply.
Ambient noise	Student uses this accommodation.	School staff implement this arrangement. The digital assessment platform does not provide this arrangement.	Students using ambient-noise audio must use professionally/commercially recorded audio tracks without lyrics intended for background sound. No smart technology earphones are allowed.
Writing in isolation	All students	School staff implement this arrangement.	Writing in isolation is a school-level decision determined by internal school business processes, availability, and supervision.

Administering tests with accommodations and provisions

The following outlines general requirements and expectations related to the use of accommodations and provisions when administering PATs.

Prior to administration

1. All rules and procedures related to the use of a specific accommodation or provision must be explained and discussed with the student before the officially scheduled PAT administration.
2. The principal shall ensure that all PAT supervisors are appropriately prepared for PATs that are being written with accommodations or provisions. PAT supervisors must understand and implement all rules and procedures for the administration of PATs using accommodations or provisions as well as all emergent situation protocols specifically related to or not specifically related to students with accommodations and provisions.
3. The principal shall ensure that facilities, equipment, scribes, readers, sign language interpreters, transcribers of recorded responses, and materials used as PAT accommodations are supplied by the school or school authority and appropriately prepared for the administration of the PATs with safeguards to PAT security and minimal distraction to other students.
4. The principal shall develop and implement processes to ensure that special-format materials are ordered prior to the deadline for each PAT administration.
5. All accommodations used must be added by staff on the digital assessment platform.

After administration

***NEW**

1. All special-format materials, other than Braille-format materials, must be securely shredded by the school. Braille materials are to be returned to Alberta Education and Childcare.

Preparing for PAT Administration

Confirming provincial achievement test requirements

The provincial achievement test (PAT) confirmation is [deadline sensitive](#) and **mandatory for all administrators**. School staff must use the online [PAT Confirmation](#) site.

School staff must confirm the **type** and **language** of PATs for each of their students:

Grade 6	Grade 9
Type of French language arts test (Français Langue Première et Littérature for Francophone students or French Immersion Language Arts and Literature for students in French immersion programming)	Type of French language arts test (Français for Francophone students or French Language Arts for students in French immersion programming)
Language of mathematics, science, and social studies test material (English or French)	Language of mathematics, science, and social studies test material (English or French)
	Type (K&E) of English language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science test material

Home education materials

School authorities that have students registered and coded as Home Education will have their PATs administered at either the school authority office or a school identified by school authority staff.

Return shipment locations for Braille-format materials

Exam Administration Marking Centre
13156 St. Albert Trail NW
Edmonton AB T5L 4P6

Receiving hours are Monday to Friday 8 AM to 4 PM. Specific arrangements must be made for the receipt of shipments that will arrive outside of these hours.

Using couriers for the return of tests and supporting materials

The following courier services may be used to return PAT materials to Alberta Education and Childcare:

Purolator

Dispatch Telephone Number: 1-800-387-3027
Account number starting with 61592XX
Use the pre-printed return waybills included

Loomis

Dispatch Telephone Number: 1-855-256-6647
Account number starting with LU46XX

Schools or school authorities located within Edmonton, St. Albert, or Sherwood Park can also return PATs using:

Mr. Courier

Dispatch Telephone Number: 780-464-5719
Identify yourself as a school making a return shipment to Exam Administration

DV Delivery

Dispatch Telephone Number: 780-868-5503
Use the pre-printed return slips included

Superintendents of schools

PAT administration preparation

Prior to each PAT administration, the superintendent must:

1. Review this bulletin, and update or modify PAT-related processes, procedures, and schedules within the school authority to ensure that they adhere to current expectations and requirements.
2. Establish, implement, and review with principals, all security procedures and rules as outlined in the General Information Bulletin and subject bulletins.
3. Establish and communicate January and June PAT schedules to principals at the beginning of the current school year or at the end of the previous school year.
4. Establish, implement, and review with principals, procedures and schedules within the school authority that can accommodate and communicate decisions related to excusing of students from writing PATs.
5. Establish, implement, and review with principals, procedures and schedules within the school authority that ensure students enrolled in home education programs are given the opportunity to complete the PATs in accordance with the Home Education Regulation.
6. Establish, implement, and review with principals, procedures and schedules within the school authority to investigate and report PAT administration irregularities and suspected contraventions of rules and policies.
7. Establish and review with principals a PAT administration emergent response protocol to be implemented, as required, to address unexpected issues or problems that arise while PATs are being written.
8. Establish, implement, and review with principals, procedures and schedules within the school authority or private school to notify parents/guardians, at the beginning of the school year, that their child/children will be writing PATs in the current school year.
9. Have in place, in accordance with the Provincial Assessment Directive, a process for dispute resolution for decisions related to accommodations, excusing students from writing PATs and managing contraventions of rules and policies.
10. Nominate teachers to centrally mark written-response PATs.

Procedures for principals and supervisors

The following checklist will help principals and supervisors prepare for administering PATs.

Alberta Education and Childcare deadlines are published in [Significant Dates at a Glance](#) (see Appendix).

-
- Communicate PAT schedules to parents/guardians.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Use the [PAT Confirmation](#) site to confirm correct subjects including language and Knowledge and Employability. Must confirm for January and May/June separately—make sure both are completed.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Request early alternate PAT writing dates via the [survey](#).
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Order special-format materials: [Special Format Materials Request 2025-26](#)
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
If you are optionally implementing the new Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum and not writing the PAT, please confirm via the [survey](#)
-
- Use the Technical Guide on the digital assessment platform [Help](#) page to prepare all technology for students to write PATs.
-
- Communicate rules to administer PATs to teachers and students.
-
- Submit documentation to the superintendent for students who may be excused from writing PATs or require paper versions.
-
- Review with school staff the PAT administration emergent response protocol to be implemented, as required, to address unexpected issues or problems that arise while PATs are being written.
-
- Ensure all teachers are familiar with exam security procedures and that all teachers have been provided with the General Information Bulletin and subject bulletins.
-
- Ensure all students writing PATs have a valid Alberta Student Number.
-
- Ensure appropriate procedures and schedules have been established, reviewed with staff, and implemented to arrange for students who are absent on the scheduled administration day to write on an alternate day **after** other students have written the PATs.
-
- Designate and schedule rooms within the school to be used as PAT writing rooms.
Create a digital grouping for every subject being written in that room and add the supervisor to the grouping.
-
- Consider having your teachers schedule and administer a [field test](#). Field testing the questions and providing students with an opportunity to become familiar with the provincial assessment testing environment is important for student preparation.
-
- Prepare and submit recommendations and supporting documentation related to the following requests and communicate the official responses of these requests to the student and parent/guardian:
- writing accommodations for eligible students; and
 - being excused from writing one or more PAT.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Nominate teachers to centrally mark written-response PATs.
-

Provincial achievement test supervision

The following checklist will assist principals and supervisors in providing additional assurance that supervision adheres to current expectations and requirements. Substitute teachers are not permitted to independently supervise the administration of a PAT.

Alberta Education and Childcare deadlines are published in [Significant Dates at a Glance](#) (see Appendix).

-
- Ensure that appropriate procedures for the administration of writing accommodations are being followed. Students may take up to twice the official scheduled time allotted, if required.
-
- Ensure all accommodations are accurately recorded on the digital assessment platform.
-
- Verify the identity of each student and record their location in the PAT writing room. This seating plan must be retained at the school until September 30 of the next school year.
-
- Establish approved breaks during the administration/supervision. Students are not to access personal devices during breaks. Their assessment is to be paused on the digital assessment platform, and they are not to exit the locked browser.
-
- Review the rules and procedures in the General Information Bulletin related to writing a PAT with the students. Ensure that students are aware of and understand their responsibilities for adhering to those rules.

On the administration date, instructions pages for all Grade 6 PATs must be read aloud to all students.

Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature/ Français Langue Première et Littérature /French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Part(ie) A requirement: the written-response instructions pages and assignments must be read aloud to all students at the beginning of the written-component administration.
-
- Ensure that the PAT writing room is appropriately set up and free of materials or distractions that could affect the outcome of the PAT.

Only authorized materials are permitted in the PAT writing room and are not shared between students.
-
- Ensure that the rules for using computers are followed and that contingency plans for technical issues and failures are implemented, as required.
-
- Supervisors **must not** provide additional support, clarification, or feedback to any students regarding the content of the PAT outside of what is included in the instructions pages or outlined in the Provincial Achievement Test Policies.
-

Provincial achievement test completion

The following checklist will assist principals, supervisors, and teachers in completing the administration of the PATs. Alberta Education and Childcare deadlines are published in [Significant Dates at a Glance](#) (see Appendix).

-
- Supervisors must document any unusual circumstances or contraventions of rules that occurred during the PAT administration and forward this information to the principal.
Contraventions of PAT administration rules or policies must be reported to the superintendent and Director, Exam Administration.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Mark and/or score PATs in accordance with Alberta Education and Childcare standards and school-based procedures in a manner that:
- maintains the security and integrity of student responses; and
 - protects the security of all PAT materials.
-
- Schools must share students' preliminary PAT results with parents/guardians by the end of the school year. Principals can access them through their digital assessment platform administrator dashboard. Instructions can be found on the [Help](#) page.
-
- Complete the principal kit. Correctly annotate students excused by the superintendent from writing the PAT, any students who transferred from the school, or students who were absent from writing.
-
- Following the June PAT administration, provide a summer contact name and phone number (which is not the school phone number) in the principal kit.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Review school reports for errors or omissions and report any error or omission to Alberta Education and Childcare.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Individual Student Profiles are available to parents through [myPass](#), and detailed reports are available to school staff through [Achievement Test Results](#) in the fall.
-
- Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Multi-year reports are released and available to school staff through [Achievement Test Results](#) in the fall.
-

Local and Central Marking of Provincial Achievement Tests

Local marking of written response

All written-response components will be marked centrally in Edmonton in July.

For 2025-26, provincial achievement tests (PATs) will be administered on the digital assessment platform and local marking will also be available on the platform. Instructions can be found on the [Help](#) page.

Classroom teachers are encouraged to mark students' writing using the scoring guides provided in the digital assessment platform. A locally awarded mark submitted to Alberta Education and Childcare will be considered as the first reading of students' PAT written response.

After central marking has been completed, teachers will be able to see their local marker report. This report includes the locally awarded mark, the centrally awarded mark, a third-read mark if applicable, and the final mark. Instructions for this can be found in the marker report guide on the [Help](#) page.

Once received by Alberta Education and Childcare, the written responses will be read for a second time and marked centrally in July. Both marks contribute to students' final mark. In the event of a discrepancy between the two marks, written responses will be adjudicated by a third reading, which will determine the final mark awarded. In this way, students are ensured to receive fair results.

Written responses that are not marked locally by teachers will be marked centrally only once.

To support local marking, samples of student writing that exemplify the scoring criteria will be provided on the digital assessment platform. These exemplars are secure and cannot be downloaded or printed. The procedure to calculate a total score for Grade 6 and Grade 9 students' writing is provided in the Provincial Standards and Cut Scores section. The use of PAT scores, as part of the student's school mark, is at the discretion of the school authority.

***NEW** Marking of selected responses

Selected responses will be marked automatically on the digital assessment platform, and teachers will have access to student results in the teacher dashboard. Administrators have access to preliminary reports through their digital principal kit. These reports may be used to share results with parents.

Eligibility to participate in central marking

Teachers are nominated by their superintendent to participate in central marking of written responses in July. A teacher shall have taught the subject within the last three years, be employed by a school authority at the time of marking, be able to mark on all scheduled days, and have a valid Alberta permanent professional teaching certificate.

Provincial Achievement Test Marking Sessions, 2025/2026

Nominations for provincial achievement test marking sessions

The central marking of Part(ie) A provincial achievement tests (PATs) takes place in July following each school year. All writing assignments are marked by teachers selected from among those who have been nominated as markers by their superintendents to Provincial Assessment. Teachers who wish to be nominated as markers should inform their principals. A teacher must clearly indicate to the principal which provincial achievement test subject, and which grade they wish to mark.

Emails to request marker nominations are distributed to school authorities within the time frame below. Nominations must be returned to Alberta Education and Childcare by the deadline.

	Nomination Packages are Sent to School Authorities	Deadline for Nominations to be Returned to Alberta Education and Childcare
July Marking	End of February 2026	End of April 2026

*NEW Provincial Standards and Cut Scores

The provincial achievement testing program is committed to maintaining high standards. A goal of Alberta Education and Childcare is to ensure fairness to students, no matter when they write a PAT.

The PATs are criterion-referenced and based on learning outcomes expected at Grade 6 and 9 levels respectively. Student performance is reported in relation to two standards: the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence. A rigorous process called “equating” is used to maintain consistent standards and help make the exams as fair as possible. By maintaining consistent standards through equating, government can more accurately report changes in student PAT results from one year to the next.

When a new curriculum is introduced, it is necessary to reset standards and cut scores. A formal standard-setting procedure, involving classroom teachers from across the province, is conducted to set standards and recommend cut scores that appropriately reflect the intent of the new curriculum in terms of its expectations and standards. The information obtained through this standard-setting procedure is used in conjunction with other information, such as results from the equating process (if available), to determine appropriate cut scores.

The process of equating is dependent on there being common PAT questions from one year to the next, and therefore, a PAT has several questions in common with a previous PAT. Common items are used to find out if the student population writing in one administration differs in achievement from the student population writing in another administration. Common items are also compared to the unique items (questions that have never appeared in a previous PAT) to see if they differ in difficulty from the common items. Because it is almost impossible to construct tests that are precisely equal in difficulty, cut scores may be adjusted slightly from year to year through equating, a process of determining the score-equivalent on a new PAT relative to a previous PAT. The cut score is the score on the PAT, at each standard, that determines whether a student has achieved that given standard. This ensures that the actual performance expected of students at the acceptable standard and at the standard of excellence remains constant. In other words, although the cut score representing the standard may vary, the standard of performance does not.

To ensure consistent standards and the reliability and validity of provincial assessments, psychometricians and analysts in Provincial Assessment’s analytics unit provide psychometric advice and oversight regarding the design, development, and enhancement of testing, marking, scoring, and results reporting for all provincial achievement tests.

Reporting Provincial Achievement Test Results

Public access to results

Detailed school and school authority results are made available electronically to schools and school authorities for review for errors and omissions in late August. Official release of [multi-year summary](#) reports are provided in the fall. Provincial results will be released publicly by the Department. Alberta Education and Childcare recommends schools and school authorities plan for the timely release of their own results within a context appropriate to the local situation.

Multi-year results for authorities and schools are posted on the Alberta Education and Childcare website.

As a result of the implementation of the new curriculum in Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, and Français Langue Première et Littérature/ French Immersion Language Arts and Literature, the reporting of provincial achievement test (PAT) results in these subjects will be modified from the normal reporting information available.

The Grade 6 and Grade 9 Mathematics detailed school and school authority results for 2024-25 will no longer contain Table 5.2 (Released Items in Part A – Most Frequent Incorrect Response and Percent Students Responding). Digital response variations no longer allow the data to be represented in this table. Alberta Education and Childcare does not endorse the publication of rank-ordered lists of schools based on PAT results.

Guidelines regarding the re-issue of reports

Except under unusual circumstances or by order of the Minister of Education and Childcare, the information reported in provincial achievement testing program school and school authority reports will remain unchanged following their public release

Individual School, All Schools, and School Authority Report

1. In the first 10 days following the publication of detailed provincial achievement testing program reports, the data of an individual school, all schools, or school authority may be changed and the report re-issued under the following circumstances:
 - Alberta Education and Childcare makes an error on a report that has significant impact on the meaning or value of data that will be publicly reported, or is likely to raise doubts about the integrity of the entire report; and
 - Requests for change to individual student records, made by the school or school authority subsequent to the initial publication of their report, have a significant impact on the meaning or value of the data that will be reported, have a significant impact on the meaning or value of provincial data, or increase the likelihood that doubts will be raised about the integrity of an entire report. The request for report re-issue must be approved by the superintendent.
2. Beyond 10 days after the publication of detailed provincial achievement testing program reports, no changes will be made to any school or school authority report except under unusual circumstances or by order of the Minister of Education and Childcare.

Individual Student Profiles

In the fall, Alberta Education and Childcare makes available copies of the Individual Student Profile (ISP) of each student to the staff of the school where the student wrote the PAT. ISPs are available in the Provincial Approach to Student Information (PASI) system.

Schools are responsible for forwarding ISPs to parents through the following options: forwarding the PDF ISPs electronically to parents through school systems, printing the ISPs for mailing, or signing up parents for myPass access to their child's account. Students and parents will be able to access the PAT Results ISPs as needed using myPass.

ISPs for students who are excused or absent from the assessment and students whose results have been withheld will be annotated Not Available (N/A).

Home education reports

Results for students in home education programs are not included in the regular school authority report. Results are reported separately to each school authority for their students in home education programs.

Superintendents will ensure that home education teachers and parents have access to the aggregated home education results for their school authority. To protect the confidentiality of individual student results, if the aggregated report includes results of fewer than six students, it shall not be reported publicly.

ISPs are available to the parents and supervisors of home educated students to use in planning their instructional programs.

Using the reports

Students' performance on the PATs reflects their cumulative growth and achievement over their entire school program, not just from instruction in Grades 6 or 9. Principals should therefore ensure that all staff participate in the review of PAT results. If changes to school programs are needed, all staff will need to be involved.

Plans should also be made to involve the school council and community in discussing PAT results and in developing plans to improve student learning. Many school administrators and classroom teachers have developed successful strategies for involving parents and the community in helping students to meet standards and in supporting the school to maintain its programs.

Appendix 1: Significant Dates at a Glance Provincial Achievement Tests 2025–2026

Communications

Who	Responsibility	January 2026	May 2026	June 2026
School authority staff	Fall 2025: Communicate PAT schedules to principals for January and June administrations.			
Provincial Achievement Testing Program Branch, Alberta Education and Childcare	End of February 2026: Marker nomination packages sent to school authority assessment contacts.			
School authority staff	End of April 2026 (Specific dates are communicated in the marker nomination package sent to school authority assessment contacts.): Return marker nominations to Provincial Achievement Testing Branch, Alberta Education and Childcare.			
Principal or delegate	September 2025: Notify parents/guardians that their child/children will be writing PATs in this current school year. (A <i>Quick Facts for Parents/Guardians</i> is available on the Provincial Achievement Tests website.)			
	September 2025 to June 2026: School staff may enter parent/guardian information and email address to ensure Individual Student Profiles are available through myPass.			
	DEADLINE to submit forms to the Special Cases and Accommodations team: List of Special-format Materials Application for Unique Accommodations	November 28, 2025	March 3, 2026	
	DEADLINE to fill out the PAT survey to indicate optional new curriculum implementation and/or request early PAT administration dates	November 28, 2025	March 3, 2026	
	DEADLINE to send list of out-of-cohort students (programs of study completed) writing PATs to exam.admin@gov.ab.ca	November 28, 2025	February 7, 2026	
Time sensitive period: Confirm PAT registrations using the PAT Confirmation site.	November 7–28, 2025	November 7– March 3, 2026		

Receiving and administering special-format materials

Who	Responsibility	January 2026	May 2026	June 2026
Exam Administration Branch, Alberta Education and Childcare	Send special format materials to schools	January 6–7, 2026	April 16–17, 2026	May 21–22, 2026
Principal or designate	Contact Exam Administration if special-format materials shipment has not arrived or if errors/omissions are identified.	January 14, 2026	April 30, 2026	June 4, 2026
Principal or designate	Administer PATs Part(ie) As (except Mathematics) in accordance with schedules set by Alberta Education and Childcare.	January 15, 20, and 22, 2026	May 19–22, 2026	N/A
Teachers	Teachers may locally mark Part(ie) A English Language Arts (and Literature)/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature/Français Langue Première et Littérature/K&E.	Until January 27, 2026	Until June 23, 2026	N/A
Principal or designate	Administer PATs Part(ie) B Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics (Part(ie) A and B) in accordance with schedules set by Alberta Education and Childcare.	January 19–28, 2026	N/A	June 8–23, 2026

Reporting

Who	Responsibility	January 2026	May 2026	June 2026
Principal or designate	RETURN Braille-format materials	By January 27, 2026	By June 10, 2026	By June 23, 2026
	Complete the principal kit on the digital assessment platform.	After each test	After each test	After each test
		All January PATs are secured.		
School authority staff and principal/designate	Access and review detailed report for errors/omissions.	N/A	Late August 2026	
	DEADLINE for reporting errors/omissions to the Director, Early Years Screeners and Provincial Achievement Tests	N/A	Early September 2026	
Provincial Assessment	Provincial Assessment Release detailed reports and Individual Student Profiles.	N/A	Late September 2026	

Appendix 2: Digital Calendars

The Exam Administration Branch publishes and maintains calendars to which people can subscribe.

Successful subscription to these calendars will automatically push PAT schedules, deadlines, and significant dates for the current and future school years to the most used electronic calendars, including Outlook, iOS, and Google.

Depending on individual calendar syncing configurations, it may be necessary to subscribe to the same calendar from multiple devices.

Writing Session	Link
January	webcal://p29-caldav.icloud.com/published/2/MTcyMDQzMDA3OTcxNzlwNB0YWxLi9E9wE87BujEc07z-ocvHHFEcO-ngmSqnXjICF_OZTxP-nvRi0RsEYWgfz2x3ebFhUc3ulBD-QsUilg
May/June	webcal://p29-caldav.icloud.com/published/2/MTcyMDQzMDA3OTcxNzlwNB0YWxLi9E9wE87BujEc043RytGPNEMB-uV3AR5B6jEHcY8uwH2Ax6Jo0HC28WztDLWxsJYjuO3JgLF8pkRgYo

Appendix 3: Contacts

Provincial Assessment
Alberta Education and Childcare
44 Capital Boulevard
10044 108 Street NW
Edmonton AB, T5J 5E6

Alberta Education and Childcare website:
alberta.ca/education

Provincial Assessment

Test security, rules, scheduling, and policy issues

780-427-1857

Email: exam.admin@gov.ab.ca

Results

780-427-1857

Email: exam.admin@gov.ab.ca

Packing, shipping of special-format materials

780-427-1857

Email: exam.admin@gov.ab.ca

Digital Assessment

780-641-8987

780-415-0824

Email: online.assessment@gov.ab.ca

Special cases and accommodations

780-415-9242

780-427-4215

780-427-9795

Email: special.cases@gov.ab.ca

Field testing

780-641-9116

Email: field.test@gov.ab.ca

Test format, content, confirming standards, marking, results reporting

Email: edc.pats@gov.ab.ca

French Assessment

Email: french.assessment@gov.ab.ca

When contacting Alberta Education and Childcare, please include your name, title, school name, school code, and, if referring to a student, include the student's Alberta Student Number.