



Leadership and Superintendent Leadership Certification

In-Service Programs

Information Bulletin

2019 01 15

2019 will be the year for the Leadership and Superintendent Leadership Certification In-Service Programs!

As previously communicated by the Deputy Minister on 2018 08 24, recent amendments to the *School Act* require all Alberta principals and superintendents in public, separate, francophone, charter and private school authorities to hold appropriate Leadership Certification, effective 2019 09 01, that is based upon the appropriate Leadership Standard. To support the transition to this new requirement, all principals and superintendents active in their roles during the 2018/19 school year will receive grandparented Certification, subject to their application to Alberta Education's Registrar and verification of their employment status.

What are the Leadership and Superintendent Leadership Certification In-Service Programs?

Teachers serving in leadership roles during the 2018/19 school year can obtain Leadership Certification through an In-Service Program connecting their practice to the competencies described in the Leadership Quality Standard (LQS) and Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard (SLQS). The list of those eligible to take the programs follows.

One In-Service Program will be designed to align with the LQS and will lead to Leadership Certification. There will be two different options of the Leadership Certification In-Service Program. Leadership Certification In-Service Program Option A (LQSa) is recommended for assistant, associate, vice principals, and school jurisdiction leaders who have not had previous experience as a school principal. Leadership Certification In-Service Program Option B (LQSB) is recommended for principals who are wanting to take the program for professional development and school jurisdiction leaders who have previous experience as a school principal.

A second In-Service Program will be designed to align with the SLQS and will lead to Superintendent Leadership Certification.

Leaders holding either an interim professional teaching certificate or permanent professional teaching certificate are eligible to take the In-Service programming. For those leaders on an interim professional teaching certificate, Alberta Education will issue Leadership Certification once the permanent professional teaching certificate has been granted.

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Who Is Eligible to Take the Program?

Individuals working in the following leadership roles in an Alberta school authority during the 2018/19 school year will be eligible for the Leadership Certification In-Service Program:

- Assistant, associate and vice-principals,
- School jurisdiction leaders (central office staff members, other than the superintendent, required by their leadership position to hold an Alberta teaching certificate, such as deputy, assistant, and associate superintendents, directors, heads of independent schools, consultants, etc). School jurisdiction leaders who complete the Leadership Certification In-Service Program may choose to continue to the Superintendent Leadership Certification In-Service Program.

School leaders working in these roles will not be required to hold Leadership Certification, but may, nevertheless, wish to take advantage of this one-time In-Service opportunity to receive Leadership Certification.

School jurisdiction leaders working in these roles will not be required to hold Leadership Certification nor Superintendent Leadership Certification, but may, nevertheless, wish to take advantage of this one-time In-Service opportunity to receive Leadership Certification and Superintendent Leadership Certification.

Once the In-Service opportunity has passed, those wishing to obtain either Leadership Certification and Superintendent Leadership Certification will be required to complete a formalized program offered through Alberta's postsecondary institutions.

In addition to those mentioned above, principals who will receive grandparented Leadership Certification may participate in the Leadership Certification In-Service and superintendents who will receive grandparented Leadership and Superintendent Leadership Certification may participate in the Leadership Certification In-Service and/or the Superintendent Leadership Certification In-Service as a professional development activity should they desire to do so.

How Long is the In-Service Program?

Each In-Service Program will be two consecutive days. Individual Leadership Certification In-Service and Superintendent Leadership Certification In-Service Programs will be offered multiple times in regional locations throughout the province beginning in February and concluding by December 2019.

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When and Where is the In-Service Program being Offered?

The Leadership Certification In-Service Program will be offered first, initially coinciding with the dates and cities of the various teachers' conventions throughout the province. The Leadership Certification In-Service Program will be offered at separate venues from the conventions.

Those who are obligated to attend their convention and are eligible to take the Leadership Certification In-Service Program may choose to do so as an alternate professional development activity. Those individuals do not have to apply to their convention board for permission to do so.

Access to the Leadership Certification In-Service session(s) is not restricted to only those who are attending convention. Any person eligible as per the previous guidelines may register to attend.

It is important to note there will be subsequent sessions of the Leadership Certification In-Service Program offered in the regions across the province throughout the remainder of the year.

The Superintendent Leadership Certification In-Service Program will be offered later in the spring and also throughout the remainder of the year. The locations and the dates for the sessions can be found on the digital platform.

How Do I Register and What are the Costs?

A secure digital platform is being used for registration, access to program resources and the development of an online community of practice for those interested. The platform can be found at <https://abedleadershipcert.ca/register>.

There are instructions on the landing page related to how to sign up to the platform to access the session dates and locations and to register for the session of your choice. You must register to enrol in a session. Please note each session will have an enrolment cap. That being said, as previously stated, sessions will be scheduled throughout the province on a regular basis to ensure access to all those that wish to take an In-Service program.

There will be no cost to take the program; however, participants will be responsible for personal expenses related to accommodation and travel.

Do I Receive University Credit When I Complete the Program?

Completing the program does not qualify for university credit. It is also not eligible for credit towards years of education for salary purposes.

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Is There Anything Else That I Need to Do to Prepare for Leadership Certification?

Yes, any Alberta certificated teacher that is interested in acquiring leadership certification should ensure they update their information in Alberta's Teacher Workforce Information System (TWINS). Those who are eligible for grandparented or in-service pathways to leadership certification will be contacted through TWINS directly alerting them that their application is ready for completion.

Where Can I Get Further Information?

If you have any questions regarding the Leadership Certification In-Service Programs please contact Executive Director Barry Litun at barry.litun@cass.ab.ca or Director of Leadership Learning Dr. Naomi Johnson at naomi.johnson@cass.ab.ca. If you have questions regarding leadership certification or superintendent leadership certification, contact Karsten Koch, Manager, Leadership Excellence Branch, Alberta Education at karsten.koch@gov.ab.ca.