

607.3 Instructional Resources and Materials

Policy

Instructional resources and materials used to deliver a substantive portion of the Programs of Study in Division schools shall be authorized, recommended, or approved resources.

This policy provides support for consistency in selecting and managing teaching and learning resources that align with provincial curriculum and promote equal opportunity for students in our Division.

Definitions:

The following definitions are taken from the *Provincial Resource Review Guide (April 2022)* to ensure a common understanding among stakeholders.

Authorized Resources – A resource successfully reviewed by Alberta Education that is relevant to at least one learning outcome within the provincially authorized curriculum.

Recommended Resource – A resource that is part of a subset of authorized resources that align to knowledge elements within the provincially authorized curriculum.

Approved Resource – A resource successfully reviewed using the Approval Resource Form 607.3A by a school leader for use in the local context.

Regulations

1. Instructional resources and materials shall be relevant to the curriculum and the cognitive level of the students, meet acceptable standards with respect to content and language, and reflect acceptance, respect, and understanding.
2. All resources and materials must comply with the Provincial Resource Review Guide by Alberta Education.
3. Instructional resources and materials used to deliver substantive portion of the Programs of Study that are not defined as Authorized or Recommended are subject to approval using Form 607.3A prior to the utilization of the resource.

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4. A teacher shall provide notice to a parent/guardian of a student where courses, programs of study, or instructional materials, or instruction for exercises, include subject matter which deals primarily and explicitly with religion or human sexuality. This does not apply to incidental or indirect references to religion, religious themes or human sexuality.
(*Education Act*)
5. Students shall not be denied basic instructional supplies and materials because of financial hardship or as leverage for the collection of outstanding fees.
6. Concerns with respect to the appropriateness of instructional resources shall be handled as follows:
 - 6.1. The matter should be discussed with the relevant teacher.
 - 6.2. The decision of the teacher may be appealed to the principal in writing.
 - 6.3. The decision of the principal may be appealed to the Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy.

References

Education Act:	58.1, 58.2
Division Policies:	802.2 Student Fees, 505.9 Appeals, 607.3.1 Copyright
Other:	Alberta Education – Authorized Resources Database Provincial Resource Review Guide, April 2022, Education, Government of Alberta