
General Information Bulletin 2026–2027

Grades 6 and 9
Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing



This document was written primarily for

Students

Teachers



Administrators



Parents

General Audience

General Information Bulletin 2026–2027 Grades 6 and 9 Alberta Provincial Achievement Testing

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The General Information Bulletin 2026–2027 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 2026–2027 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 2026–2027 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 email at exam.admin@gov.ab.ca.

Contents

Introduction	6
• Purpose of the bulletin	6
• Definitions and interpretations	6
Purpose of the Provincial Achievement Testing Program	7
• Who may supervise a provincial achievement test?	7
• Available languages	7
• Who is expected to write provincial achievement tests?	7
• Home education students	7
• Out-of-cohort students	8
• Improving student learning	8
• New curriculum and provincial achievement tests	8
• Interpreting reporting results	9
• Subject-specific PAT information	9
Summary of Revisions for the 2026-27 School Year	10
Digital Assessment Platform	11
• Background	11
• Paper Accommodations	11
Provincial Achievement Test Administration Schedules	12
• June 2027	14
• June 2028	16
• June 2029 (Draft)	18
• June 2030 (Draft)	20
Security of Provincial Achievement Tests	21
• Access to provincial achievement tests and materials	21
• Printing of students' written responses	21
• Security status of January provincial achievement tests and materials	21
• Security status of June Part A provincial achievement tests and materials	21
• Practice questions	21
Provincial Achievement Test Rules and Policies	22
• Provincial achievement test supervision	22
• Discussion and sharing	22
• Alberta Student Number	22
• Entrance into and exit from the provincial achievement test writing room	22
• Materials allowed in the provincial achievement test writing room	22
• Materials not allowed in the provincial achievement test writing room	23

• Teacher perusals	23
• Technical Difficulties	23
Contraventions of Provincial Achievement Test	24
• Managing student contravention of test security, rules, and/or policies	24
• Request for reconsideration	24
Using Calculators.....	25
• Background	25
• Rules	25
Provincial Achievement Tests Using Accommodations and Provisions	26
• Policy	26
• Regular accommodations	26
• Students in a home education program	26
Provincial Achievement Tests Using Accommodations and Provisions	27
• Unique accommodations: Accommodations granted by Special Cases	29
• Process to submit requests designated to be reviewed	30
• Special arrangement	30
• Administering tests with accommodations and provisions	31
• Prior to administration	31
• After administration	31
Preparing for PAT Administration	32
• Home education materials	32
• Superintendents of schools	32
• PAT administration preparation	32
• Procedures for principals and supervisors	33
• Provincial achievement test supervision	34
• Provincial achievement test completion	35
Local and Central Marking of Provincial Achievement Tests.....	36
• Local marking of written response	36
• Marking of selected responses	36
• Eligibility to participate in central marking	36
Provincial Achievement Test Marking Sessions, 2026-27	37
• Nominations for provincial achievement test marking sessions	37
Provincial Standards and Cut Scores	38
Reporting Provincial Achievement Test Results.....	39
• Public access to results	39
• Guidelines regarding the re-issue of reports	39
• Individual School, All Schools, and School Authority Report	39
• Individual Student Profiles	40
• Home education reports	40

• Using the reports	40
Appendix 1: Significant Dates at a Glance.....	41
• Communications	41
• Receiving and administering PATs	42
• Reporting	43
Appendix 2: Digital Calendars	44
Appendix 3: Contacts	45

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*.
- **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. Educational Assistants and substitute teachers may supervise individual students with accommodations according to the required provisions.

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 provides 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.

When a school authority intends for an out-of-cohort PAT result to be treated as an official mark and for no rewriting to be required when the student reaches Grade 6 or 9, the school **must** submit a no-rewriting request. Requests **must be emailed** to exam.admin@gov.ab.ca by the deadline published on the Provincial Achievement Tests [website](#) and **must include** the names and Alberta Student Numbers of all affected Grade 5 or Grade 8 students, as well as the specific subject(s) each student will write out of cohort. Requests submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed or approved.

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 a school does not submit a no-rewriting request by the published deadline or elects to have a student write a PAT out-of-cohort as an unofficial attempt, schools **must** indicate "Out-of-Cohort – rewrite required" in the principal kits, along with the student's name and Alberta Student Number. In these cases, the student's out-of-cohort PAT result will not count as an official mark and will not be included in the school and school authority reports for the subject(s) written. When the student reaches Grade 6 or 9, they **must** rewrite the subject(s) previously written out-of-cohort, in addition to any subjects not written in the earlier year.

A student's PAT result may count as official mark and be included in the school and school authority reports only once, regardless of the option chosen. If a school intends for students 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 clearly communicate this decision to parents and students. This communication must occur sufficiently in advance of the out-of-cohort PAT administration and **must** explain that the out-of-cohort results will not count as official marks and that rewriting will be required.

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 the 2026-27 school year, the first year of implementation of the new Grade 6 Social Studies curriculum, students will **not** write the Grade 6 Social Studies PAT. Instead, schools are encouraged to participate in field testing between April and June 2027. Participation in field testing will support the development of future PATs aligned with the new curriculum.

The 2026-27 school year, the 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.

In the 2026-27 school year, schools that are optionally piloting the new Grade 9 Mathematics and/or Social Studies curriculum will not write the current PAT. Instead, schools are encouraged to participate in field testing between April and June 2027.

Participation in field testing will support the development of future PATs aligned with the new curriculum. Please see the survey in Appendix 1 to indicate schools that are optionally piloting new 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 2026-27 School Year

The following major revisions have been made.

All major changes for the 2026-27 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 and schedules	Provincial achievement tests (PATs) must be administered in accordance with the published schedule. New draft schedule added for 2030.	Provincial achievement test administration schedules
New curriculum	<i>A Grade 6 Social Studies PAT</i> will not be administered in the 2026-27 school year. Schools are encouraged to participate in field testing that will occur in April to June 2027. Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature (ELAL), Mathematics, Science, French Immersion Language Arts and Literature, and Français Langue Première et Littérature PATs will be administered in the 2026-27 school year. Grade 9 Mathematics and Social Studies are being optionally piloted.	New curriculum and provincial achievement tests
Teacher perusals	Information on the process for perusals has been updated.	Provincial Achievement Test Rules and Policies
Paper Accommodations	Information regarding paper exams as an accommodation has been added.	Digital Assessment Platform
Surveys	A single PAT Survey now allows schools to indicate optional piloting of new curriculum implementation for grade 9 and to request early PAT administration dates.	Appendix 1

Digital Assessment Platform

Background

Alberta Education and Childcare has modernized provincial assessments by transitioning to a digital platform for provincial student assessments. Students will write diploma exams and provincial achievement tests in a digital environment rather than pencil and paper. This is supported by *An Act to Remove Politics and Ideology from Classrooms and Amend the Education Act, 2026* (Bill 25), which will come into effect on proclamation, anticipated for September 1, 2026.

To access this platform, principals need to email ae.helpdesk@gov.ab.ca to request an invitation. Once principals have set up an account, they can add other staff at their school. For more information about the digital assessment platform, see [Help | Vretta ABED](#). For practice questions like those used on PATs, see [Practice Tests | Vretta ABED](#). For additional support, please contact online.assessment@gov.ab.ca.

***NEW** Paper Accommodations

If a school authority has entire **schools** with special circumstances that require all students to write their PAT on paper, the authority must make a request by completing the [Paper Request Form](#).

For individual students with special circumstances who require paper as an accommodation, please see [Unique Accommodations](#).

- Paper and digital formats of PATs are similar but not identical. A student must not have access to a paper copy and also be logged into the DAP. 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. Each student's completed response sheets **must** be uploaded to the DAP by the school administrator within five business days following test administration. For Part(ie) B humanities, mathematics, and sciences, schools **must** enter each student's responses digitally in the DAP within five business days following test administration.

For more information about printed paper-format exams, please see the [help page](#).

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.

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.

For English Language Arts and Literature 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 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 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A 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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B 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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies 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 after the June administration**. ELA/FR/FLA 9 will be released on the DAP following 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 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A 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
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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Friday, June 18	9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies 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.

January 2028

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

January 2028		
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 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A 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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B 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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies 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 after the June administration**. ELA/FR/FLA 9 will be released on the DAP following the June administration. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

June 2028

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

June 2028		
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 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A 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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Monday, June 26	9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies 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.

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 after the June administration**. ELA/FR/FLA 9 will be released on the DAP following the June administration. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

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 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A 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 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Tuesday, June 26	9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies 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.

January 2030 (Draft)

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

January 2030 (Draft)		
Monday, January 21	9 AM–11 AM 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Tuesday, January 22	9 AM–11:00 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Wednesday, January 23	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Thursday, January 24	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Monday, January 28	9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Tuesday, January 29	9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Wednesday, January 30	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Science Grade 9 K&E Science
Thursday, January 31	9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Social Studies 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 after the June administration**. ELA/FR/FLA 9 will be released on the DAP following the June administration. Information about the administered PATs must not be shared or discussed.

June 2030 (Draft)

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

June 2030 (Draft)		
Wednesday, June 5	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature/French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie A
Thursday, June 6	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie A
Friday, June 7	9 AM–11 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part A
Monday, June 10	9 AM–11 AM 9 AM–10:20 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part A Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part A
Tuesday, June 11	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 Français Langue Première et Littérature /French Immersion Language Arts and Literature Partie B
Thursday, June 13	9 AM–10 AM	Grade 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part B
Friday, June 14	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 Français/French Language Arts Partie B
Monday, June 17	9 AM–9:30 AM 9 AM–9:30 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) A Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) A
Tuesday, June 18	9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B Grade 9 K&E English Language Arts Part B
Wednesday, June 19	9 AM–10:15 AM 9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Mathematics Part(ie) B Grade 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B Grade 9 K&E Mathematics
Thursday, June 20	9 AM–10 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Science Grade 9 Science Grade 9 K&E Science
Monday, June 24	9 AM–10 AM 9 AM–10:20 AM 9 AM–10:15 AM	Grade 6 Social Studies Grade 9 Social Studies Grade 9 K&E Social Studies

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

Security of Provincial Achievement Tests

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

Copying of any secured PAT material in whole or in part is prohibited.

After each PAT administration, the principal must complete the principal kit 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 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.

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

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.

Practice questions

Practice 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

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. Educational Assistants and substitute teachers may supervise individual students with accommodations according to the required provisions.
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 **must not** copy, post, share, or reproduce any portion of a PAT in any format. All PAT questions are secured, and no copies or notes may not be made of any portion of a PAT. Teachers are not permitted to copy, share, or record PAT content in any manner. 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. Any Alberta Education and Childcare lined paper needed for rough work must be provided to students by the supervisor. Any paper used for rough work must be collected by the supervisor and securely shredded at the school immediately following the test administration.
4. No electronic or paper templates and/or graphic organizers are allowed for the written-response component of PATs.
5. Students may not bring into the PAT writing room *any personal mobile device including, but not limited to, cellphones or wearable smart devices including smart watches, Bluetooth® glasses or Bluetooth® headphones*. This requirement is consistent with the expectations established in Ministerial Order #014/2024 regarding the use of personal mobile devices by students. 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.

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 48 hour 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.

***NEW** Technical Difficulties

Technical difficulties that occur during the administration of a PAT using the digital assessment platform are managed through documentation and established administrative procedures. This bulletin outlines expectations for managing PAT administration but does not provide step-by-step technical troubleshooting procedures. Schools are expected to follow established local and provincial operational guidance to manage technical difficulties during test administration.

If technical issues cannot be resolved locally, schools should follow established escalation pathways through their school authority and Alberta Education and Childcare. Schools should refer to current digital assessment platform support materials and established escalation pathways for guidance on managing technical issues before, during, and after test administration through [Alberta Education and Childcare's Online Assessment resources](#).

Technical issues, on their own, do not constitute a contravention of test security, rules, or policies and do not automatically result in invalidation of test results. A technical issue may require reporting as a contravention only if it results in, or is accompanied by, a breach of test security or test rules.

Should technical difficulties arise during the administration of a PAT, supervisors are responsible for the following:

- documenting the issue in real time (e.g., taking screenshots, recording exact timestamps);
- attempting basic troubleshooting, including:
 - switching devices or logout and log back in;
 - moving closer to Wi-Fi;
 - checking Alberta Student Number (ASN) and date of birth (DOB) in PASI; and/or
 - proctors refreshing exam supervisor dashboard screen.
- escalating to school's IT support;
- contacting Online Assessment (online.assessment@gov.ab.ca);
- ensuring exam security during disruption; and
- keeping students calm during disruption.

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 PAT. Principals are responsible for establishing, implementing, and communicating response protocols to address situations in which an incorrect PAT (by subject or language) is administered, in accordance with PAT administration rules. 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 curricula for each subject including those that relate to the use of calculators.

To ensure compatibility with provincial curricula 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.
 - Knowledge and Employability Science
 - Students may use calculators; however, use of graphing calculators is not permitted.
2. A calculator function is available on the digital assessment platform for subjects that allow use of a calculator. Students may also 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 principal of the writing centre directly before the administration.

Provincial Achievement Tests Using Accommodations and Provisions

Regular Accommodation Type	Rules	Process
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.	School adds accommodation for the student in the digital assessment platform.
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.	School adds accommodation for the student in the digital assessment platform.
Multiplication tables (10x10 Math 9 12x12 Math 6)	Students who use multiplication tables as an assessment accommodation 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.
Scribe	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. 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. A scribe may not ask leading questions or provide suggestions or interpretations of any kind. The student shall review the scribed work and request changes if necessary. The student must verify and edit, if required, the scribed text. The time required for verification and editing must be included in the PAT writing time.	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.
Large print	- For all exams, large print can be provided using the zoom features on the digital assessment platform. - Students who use large print throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School administrators print locally from the DAP.

Regular Accommodation Type	Rules	Process
Braille	Students who use Braille throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School personnel order braille by emailing special.cases@gov.ab.ca by the deadline found in Significant Dates at a Glance .
Reader	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. Students receiving targeted and specialized interventions may still require one-to-one support. 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. They must not prompt or guide the student. They must not ask leading questions or provide suggestions, interpretations, or word definitions of any kind. They may repeat readings as often as necessary and must read consistently each time.	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.
Sign language interpreter	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. For purposes of interpreting for a PAT, a sign language interpreter may: • voice what is signed by a student; and • interpret all words spoken during the exam period that are intended for all students. 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. 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.	School staff implement this accommodation in a separate writing area.

Regular Accommodation Type	Rules	Process
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.
	Students who use coloured paper throughout the school year are eligible to receive this accommodation when writing PATs.	School administrators print locally from the DAP.
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. It is not part of the digital assessment platform.

Scribes, readers, and sign language interpreters, 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, or sign language interpreters, nor is Alberta Education and Childcare responsible for expenses incurred in appointing these individuals.

***NEW** Unique accommodations: Accommodations granted by Special Cases

Accommodations used by students for classroom instruction and assessment but not listed in the regular accommodation types chart, **including paper-format PATs for individual students**, are considered to be unique. Criteria for a student's eligibility for an accommodation are dependent upon the student's academic needs. However, in all cases, the request for unique accommodation must directly correspond to the specialized assessment. School staff are encouraged to contact the Special Cases and Accommodations Team as early as possible to discuss unique accommodation options.

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 designated to be reviewed by the Special Cases and Accommodations Team

Step 1: School staff prepare and submit the Application for 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 and processes, each request and communicates an official response.

Step 3: School staff communicate the official response to the student and parent/guardian 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. These are not recorded in the digital assessment platform.

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 required 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

- 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.
- Parents/guardians must be informed of the use of accommodations and provisions for the purpose of PATs.
- 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, whether related or not related to students with accommodations and provisions.
- Educational Assistants may supervise individual students with accommodations according to the required provisions.
- The principal shall ensure that facilities, equipment, scribes, readers, or sign language interpreters 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.
- The principal shall ensure that special-format materials have been printed and that any required Braille materials have been received prior to each PAT administration.
- All accommodations used must be added by staff on the digital assessment platform teacher dashboard.

After administration

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

***NEW**

Braille Services
c/o SSVI
Muriel Stanley Venne Provincial Centre
12360 142 St NW
Edmonton, AB T5L 2H1
Receiving station 17

Preparing for PAT Administration

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.

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 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 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.**
Request early alternate PAT writing dates via the [survey](#).
-
- ☐ **Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
If you are optionally implementing 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(s) to the grouping.
-
- ☐ Consider having teachers schedule and administer a [field test](#). Field testing the questions and providing students with an opportunity to become familiar with the digital assessment platform 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. Educational Assistants may supervise individual students with accommodations according to the required provisions.

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.
-
- ☐ Ensure any paper copies of tests have been printed and given to the correct student.
-
- ☐ 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.**
Upload any written response sheets into the DAP within five business days following test administration. Ensure any student responses for Part B or any other selected response tests written on paper have been entered into the DAP within five business days following test administration. Securely shred all paper 45 days following administration.
-
- ☐ **Must be completed by the Alberta Education and Childcare deadline.**
Mark 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, students who were absent from writing, K&E students and French Immersion students.
-
- ☐ 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.
-

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.

Provincial achievement tests (PATs) will be administered on the DAP and local marking will be completed 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 DAP. 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.

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 until the end of the administration. 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, 2026-27

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 2027	End of April 2027

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.

Individual Student Profiles are available to parents through [myPass](#), and detailed reports are available to school staff through [Achievement Test Results](#) in the fall.

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 2026–2027

Communications

Who	Responsibility	January 2027	June 2027
School authority staff	Fall 2026: Communicate PAT schedules to principals for January and June administrations.		
Provincial Achievement Testing Program Branch, Alberta Education and Childcare	End of February 2027: Marker nomination packages sent to school authority assessment contacts.		
School authority staff	End of April 2027 (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 2026: 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 2026 to June 2027: School staff may enter parent/guardian information and email address to ensure Individual Student Profiles are available through myPass.		
	DEADLINE to submit to the Special Cases and Accommodations team: Application for Unique Accommodations Braille request	November 27, 2026	March 5, 2027
	DEADLINE to fill out the PAT survey to indicate optionally piloting new curriculum and/or request early PAT administration dates	November 27, 2026	
	DEADLINE to send list of out-of-cohort students (programs of study completed) writing PATs to exam.admin@gov.ab.ca	November 27, 2026	February 5, 2027

Receiving and administering PATs

Who	Responsibility	January 2027	June 2027
Exam Administration Branch, Alberta Education and Childcare	Send braille to schools	January 4–6, 2027	May 24–26, 2027
Principal or designate	Contact Exam Administration if braille shipment has not arrived or if errors/omissions are identified.	January 11, 2027	May 28, 2027
Principal or designate	Administer PATs accordance with schedules set by Alberta Education and Childcare.	January 18–27 2027	May 31–June 22
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 29, 2027	June 25
Principal or designate	Print any paper format PATs five days prior to administration.		
Principal or designate	Ensure all paper format written response sheets have been uploaded in the DAP within five business days following test administration, and that all selected-response records are entered into the DAP within five business days following test administration.		
Principal or designate	Securely store paper copies of PATs for 45 days following administration. After 45 days ensure all paper PATs have been securely shredded.		

Reporting

Who	Responsibility	January 2027	June 2027
Principal or designate	RETURN Braille-format materials	By January 27, 2027	By June 30, 2027
	Complete the principal kit on the digital assessment platform.	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 2027
	DEADLINE for reporting errors/omissions to the Director, Early Years Assessments and Provincial Achievement Tests	N/A	Early September 2027
Provincial Assessment	Provincial Assessment Release detailed reports and Individual Student Profiles.	N/A	Late September 2027

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/MTcyMDQzMMA3OTcxNzlwNBo0YWxLi9E9wE87BujEc07z-ocvHHFEcO-ngmSqnXjlCF_OZTxP-nvRi0RsEYWgfz2x3ebFhUc3ulBD-QsUilg
May/June	webcal://p29-caldav.icloud.com/published/2/MTcyMDQzMMA3OTcxNzlwNBo0YWxLi9E9wE87BujEc043RytGPNEMB-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

Braille Services

c/o SSVI

Muriel Stanley Venne Provincial Centre

12360 142 St NW

Edmonton, AB T5L 2H1

Receiving bay 17

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: ecc.pats@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.