

APPENDIX A¹

INFORMATION FOR FIRST NATIONS REGARDING SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY FOR RECIPROCAL EDUCATION APPROACH

In accordance with the proposed regulations for REA, First Nation entities (including bands, councils of bands, and education authorities that are authorized by a band or by a council of a band) should take immediate action for the 2019-20 school year to demonstrate their school's eligibility to participate in the REA to access provincial funding.

To demonstrate the school's REA eligibility, the First Nation entity that operates the school must provide the Ministry of Education with documentation that meets the following two criteria:

1. **First Nation governance:**

Under the REA, an eligible school must be operated by a band, council of a band, a First Nation education authority or the federal government. To demonstrate First Nation governance, the following documentation will be required:

- **Band Councils:** Resolution from the council of the band
- **Eligible corporate entities:** Board resolution or declaration

The resolution or declaration must indicate that the First Nation entity providing the documentation operates the school and must include the legal name of both the school and the entity. Examples of language that would indicate this are:

- "The **[legal name of the eligible entity]** operates **[legal name of school]** school."
- "**[Legal name of school]** school is operated by **[legal name of eligible entity]**."

Please note that this is a one-time requirement. If the school dissolves or is no longer operated by the entity indicated in the resolution or declaration, the entity is required to provide notification of this to the ministry.

2. **Financial Eligibility:**

To demonstrate financial eligibility, the following documentation will be required:

- A financial attestation that confirms the school does not charge tuition to pupils for elements of a classroom education that is required by, and

¹ The proposals set out in this document can only take effect if regulations are made by the Minister of Education or Lieutenant Governor in Council under the Education Act. Such regulations have not yet been made. Therefore, the content of this document is subject to such regulations, if and when made.

generally common to, all students. For example, costs related to staffing and administration.

Please note:

- Pupils may be subject to additional non-mandatory fees for room and board.
- Schools that charge tuition fees for students to other public entities (e.g., school boards or other First Nations) will still be eligible for the REA.

NEXT STEPS:

If your school is inspected by the ministry for Ontario Secondary School Diploma credit-granting purposes or had a reverse education services agreement in place with a school board in 2017-2018, it may be placed on a conditionally-approved list of schools for the REA regulation.

- If your school is on this list, please provide the above noted documentation to the ministry, no later than **March 30, 2020**, to be eligible for funding for the 2019-20 school year.
- If your school is not on this list please provide the above noted documentation to the ministry, no later than **October 30, 2019**, to be eligible for funding for the 2019-20 school year
- **If your school is federally-operated, you do not need to take any action.**

Please note that we cannot guarantee REA funding beyond the above noted dates until the above eligibility requirements are met.

Please send your documentation to:

Taunya Paquette, Taunya.Paquette@ontario.ca, Director of the Indigenous Education Office. Please ensure that Alice Fernandes, Alice.Fernandes@ontario.ca, Assistant to the Director, is copied.