

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 5 <i>Curriculum & Instruction</i>
PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION FOR STUDENTS	5.76

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will, through a Challenge and Equivalency Process, evaluate a student's skills and knowledge against the expectations outlined in current Ontario curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

RATIONALE

Rainy River District School Board recognizes that students acquire important knowledge, skills and competencies in a variety of settings outside, as well as inside, the formal education setting.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per Procedure s 5.75, Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students and Procedure 5.76, Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Students.

GUIDELINES

1.0 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

- 1.1 All credits granted through the Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) process will represent the same standards of achievement as credits granted to students who have taken the courses.
- 1.2 The PLAR process involves two components: challenge and equivalency. No fees will be charged to students for undergoing either process.

2.0 The Challenge Process

- 2.1 In order to challenge a course for credit, students must select a course from the Ontario curriculum that is offered in a school operated by the Board.
- 2.2 Prior to the Challenge Process, students must present evidence to the principal that they would be successful in challenging a course.

The Challenge Process may not be used as a way for students to improve their marks, nor as a way to obtain a credit for a course they have previously failed.

- 2.3 Only Grade 10, 11 and 12 courses in Ontario Curriculum policy documents are available to regular day students to challenge for credit.
- 2.4 Only Grade 11 and 12 courses in Ontario Curriculum policy documents are available to mature students to challenge for credit.

3.0 The Equivalency Process

- 3.1 For mature students, Grade 9 and 10 credits may be granted following individual assessments through the Equivalency Process.
- 3.2 Mature students may be granted equivalent Grade 11 and 12 credits if their transcripts or other documents show evidence of learning that relates directly to the Ontario Curriculum expectations for specific courses.

Definitions:

A **mature student** is at least eighteen years of age (i.e., an adult) on or before December 31 of the school year in which they return to school, who was not enrolled in a day school program for a period of at least one year and is enrolled in a secondary school program for the purpose of obtaining an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

The Challenge Process is an evaluation process whereby students’ prior learning is assessed for granting a credit for a course.

The Equivalency Process is the process of assessing credentials of students for placement only.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired outside of secondary school.

<u>CROSS REFERENCE</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u>
Procedure 5.75 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students	March 5, 2019 <u>Board Motion</u> 22	Policy/Program Memoranda 129 and 132
Procedure 5.76 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Students	<u>Review Prior to</u> 2024	Ontario Secondary Schools – s.6.6 and s.8.2