

What do parents/guardians need to know about Learning through Competencies?

This learning guide is designed for use by parents/guardians as part of a self-paced study to explore competencies. Parents/guardians are also encouraged to use this learning guide as a discussion starter at a School Council Meeting, Parent Information Event, or other school community event.



This Learning Guide is intended for use after viewing the video:

[We Are Inspiring Education](#)

Students that graduate in the next five years may work at jobs that do not even exist today. The workplace is becoming increasingly complex, requiring students to develop a range of competencies, such as critical thinking, solving complex problems and collaborating with others.

Key ideas:

- The *Ministerial Order on Student Learning (#001/2013)* outlines the following 10 competencies:



- Teachers are learning how to help all students become aware of, and develop, these 10 competencies.
- Over the next few years, all students in every grade, subject and discipline area will shift to a focus on competencies. Students will continue to learn content in subject areas; however, there will be more emphasis on applying knowledge.
- A focus on competencies will help students connect their learning to real-life situations, encouraging them to be more flexible and resourceful life-long learners.

Questions for reflection and discussion:

- What challenges might the shift to a focus on competencies present?
- What opportunities might a focus on competencies provide students?
- How might real-world learning opportunities support the development of competencies?
- What is your child's teacher and/or school community doing to support competency development?

For more information:

Support for awareness and understanding of [Learning through Competencies](#) (ARPDC)

[Ministerial Order on Student Learning \(#001/2013\)](#) (Alberta Education)

Competencies in Action video clip: [Shark Lake Development Project—Michael Strembitsky School](#)

My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource
www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/

Alberta School Council Association
www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca

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<http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca>

Your child's teacher and/or principal are also a valuable source of information.

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