

<b>Date</b>	June 9, 2026
<b>To</b>	Board of Trustees
<b>From</b>	Ron Thompson, Superintendent of Schools
<b>Subject</b>	2026-2027 Non-resident and Special Needs Sponsorship Fees and 2027-2028 International Student Fees
<b>Originator</b>	Todd Burnstad, Chief Financial Officer
<b>Resource Staff</b>	Christopher Jette, Drew Horn, Jennifer Price, Madonna Proulx, Elizabeth Shen
<b>Reference</b>	<a href="#">Education Act</a> <a href="#">Administrative Regulation HC.AR Student Admission and Enrolment</a> <a href="#">Funding Manual for School Authorities 2026-2027</a>

### ISSUE

Administration prepares an annual recommendation report for the Board of Trustees regarding non-resident and special needs sponsorship fees. These fees are established each year to support cost recovery for educating non-resident students when Edmonton Public Schools does not receive provincial funding, or when another school division requests the Division to deliver programming for its resident students.

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the proposed 2026–2027 Non-Alberta Resident Fees and Special Needs Sponsorship Fees, as detailed in Attachment I, be approved.
2. That the proposed 2027–2028 International Student Tuition Fee of \$13,500 and International Student Application Fee of \$250, as outlined in Attachment I, be approved.

### BACKGROUND

#### Non-Alberta Resident Fees

The Division applies fees for students who are Canadian residents but whose parent(s) or court-appointed legal guardian(s) reside outside Alberta. As these students are not eligible for provincial per-student funding, fees are necessary to offset the cost of delivering educational programming.

Consistent with the prior year, in the 2025–2026 school year, Edmonton Public Schools enrolled two non-Alberta resident students from Nunavut.

The fee structure also includes a Distance Education Credit Enrolment Unit (CEU) fee for non-Alberta resident students. This fee aligns with the provincial funding rate for part-time distance education students, as outlined in the 2026–2027 Funding Manual.

For the 2026–2027 school year, administration proposes increasing the Non-Alberta Resident Fee to \$11,420 (an increase of 10 per cent). This fee is specifically calculated to reflect the per-student operational funding the Division would typically receive from the province for a resident student. By aligning the fee with the operational Funding per Adjusted Enrolment Method (AEM), we ensure that the cost of educating a non-Alberta resident student is fully covered and does not draw from resources intended for local Alberta students.

### **Non-Alberta and Alberta Resident Special Needs Sponsorship Fees**

The Division enters into education service agreements (sponsorships) with other school divisions to provide programming for students with special needs. Programming costs vary depending on individual student needs and may include supports such as additional educational assistant time and transportation.

When eligible students from other Alberta school divisions are included in the Division’s enrolment count and provincial funding is received, the Alberta resident special needs sponsorship fee is reduced by the amount of the Non-Alberta Resident Fee (Attachment I).

In the current school year, Edmonton Public Schools is providing programming for:

- 14 sponsored special needs students
  - 12 from other Alberta school divisions
  - 2 from outside Alberta

Most of these students attend the Alberta School for the Deaf.

### **International Program Student Fees**

The Division has over 30 years of experience delivering academic programming to international students:

- In the current school year, 31 schools hosted 234 students from 23 countries, including:
  - 207 full-year students
  - 27 partial-year students
- By grade level, enrolment includes:
  - Kindergarten - Grade 9: 55 students
  - Grades 10 - 12: 179 students

For the 2026 - 2027 school year, the expected intake is 245 to 270 students. To date, approximately 125 applications have been received, with 59 students accepted. Admissions decisions are based on program requirements, available space, and Edmonton address location.

International tuition fees are determined based on:

- English as an Additional Language (EAL) programming costs
- Required support services
- Division operating costs (e.g., staffing)
- Market conditions across Alberta and Canada

For the 2027–2028 school year, administration recommends no change to international student fees.

### **RELATED FACTS**

- Sponsorship agreements enable the transfer of funds from the resident school division to Edmonton Public Schools to support high-needs programming, in addition to provincial funding.

- Sponsored special needs students from outside Alberta, as well as other non-resident students, are excluded from AEM enrolment calculations for provincial funding.
- Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Sponsorship fees are reviewed annually based on programming costs and funding rate changes.
- International student tuition fees are set two years in advance to support planning and communication with families.
- International Program tuition fees are allocated in a way that maximizes revenue for schools while also ensuring there are adequate financial resources to effectively administer the International Student Program.

**CONSIDERATIONS and ANALYSIS**

The proposed fee structure is in alignment with Board Policy [HEC.BP Non-Resident Student Admission and Enrolment](#), and Administrative Regulation [HC.AR Student Admission and Enrolment](#).

**NEXT STEPS**

Upon approval, updated fee information will be communicated to Division staff through Connect, and International Student Program materials will be updated accordingly.

**ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES**

ATTACHMENT I      2026-2027 Proposed Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Sponsorship Fees  
                                 2027-2028 Proposed International Student Tuition and Application Fees

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**Edmonton Public Schools**  
**2026-2027 Proposed Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Sponsorship Fees**  
**2027-2028 Proposed International Students Tuition and Application Fees**

<u>FEE DESCRIPTION</u>	<b>2026-2027 Proposed Fees</b>	<b>2025-2026 Fee</b>	<b>Variance \$</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>NON-ALBERTA RESIDENT FEE</b>					
Non-Alberta Resident Fee	\$ 11,420	\$ 10,400	1,020	10%	1
Distance Education/High School per credit enrolment unit (CEU)	212	\$ 206	6	3%	2
<b>NON-ALBERTA RESIDENT SPECIAL NEEDS SPONSORSHIP FEE*</b>					
<u>LEVEL OF SPECIALIZED LEARNING SUPPORTS (Grades Kindergarten - 12)</u>					
<b>Moderate</b> - frequently requires adult support (targeted)	\$ 12,253	\$ 11,896	357	3%	3
<b>Severe</b> - extensively dependent on adult support (specialized)	27,510	\$ 26,709	801	3%	3
<b>Profound</b> - constantly dependent on adult support (specialized)	38,662	\$ 37,536	1,126	3%	3
* Additional fees may be added to cover costs such as additional educational assistant time and transportation costs, this is determined on an individual student basis					
<b>ALBERTA RESIDENT SPECIAL NEEDS SPONSORSHIP FEE*</b>					
<u>LEVEL OF SPECIALIZED LEARNING SUPPORTS (Grades Kindergarten - 12)</u>					
<b>Moderate</b> - frequently requires adult support (targeted)	\$ 833	\$ 1,496	(663)	-44%	4
<b>Severe</b> - extensively dependent on adult support (specialized)	16,090	\$ 16,309	(219)	-1%	4
<b>Profound</b> - constantly dependent on adult support (specialized)	27,242	\$ 27,136	106	0%	4
* Additional fees may be added to cover costs such as additional educational assistant time and transportation costs, this is determined on an individual student basis					
<b>INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TUITION AND APPLICATION FEES</b>					
<u>FEE DESCRIPTION</u>	<b>2027-2028 Proposed Fees</b>	<b>2026-2027 Fee</b>	<b>Variance \$</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TUITION FEE	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	-	-	
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION FEE	250	\$ 250	-	-	

**Notes**

- 1 The proposed fee increase aligns program fees with changes to the government funding amount provided per student. Adjustments to provincial funding, along with rising costs for teachers, specialized staffing, and other essential supports, have increased overall program delivery costs. The proposed fee has been calculated to align with the projected 2026–2027 per-student operational funding amount.
- 2 The Distance Education/High School per credit enrolment unit (CEU) fee is equal to the funding rate as outlined in the 2026-2027 Funding Manual. The change from the previous year is due to a 3% increase in base rates, which was approved for the 2026 budget.
- 3 Non-Alberta Resident special needs sponsorship fees are calculated using the provincial base instruction funding rate of \$6,760, as outlined in Section I – Payment to School Authorities of the 2026–2027 Funding Manual. This amount is then multiplied by the same ratios the Division uses to determine internal Weighted Enrolment allocations for Division schools.
- 4 Special needs sponsorship fees for Alberta Residents is equal to the Non-Alberta Resident special needs sponsorship fee (note 2 above) less the Non-Alberta resident fee.