



## *Off-Campus Education Program*

### **PHILOSOPHY**

#### **Off-Campus Education**

Alberta Learning's three-year business plan encourages schools and teachers to take advantage of different delivery options, such as distance education and workplace learning. The Off-Campus policy supports efforts made to enhance and expand learning through the use of community resources. The policy includes a number of programs and a range of instructional and delivery strategies. The Off-Campus Education policy:

- Supports the use of off-campus initiatives across the curriculum; that is, courses and course components in both core and optional subject areas, and
- Supports the issuing of high school credit for workplace learning that is approved by the school and by the employer.

The off-campus policy includes the following categories:

- Integrated Occupational Program
- Registered Apprenticeship Program
- Work Experience 15, 25 and 35

Program components include:

- Community partnerships
- Job shadowing
- Mentorships
- Work study

#### **Community Partnerships**

The term "community partnerships" is used currently to describe off-campus learning within the Integrated Occupational Program. Community partnerships are based on the belief that educators can enhance student learning experiences by bringing the community into the school and by placing students out into the community.

Using the expertise, talent and resources of community-based service organizations and agencies, and of business, industry, citizen groups and parents, schools can enrich the educational experiences of students.

## **Work Study**

Work study education provides an opportunity for junior and senior high students to apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they have acquired in course work to real-life situations through a school-community partnership arrangement.

Work study includes experiential learning activities undertaken by a student:

- As an integral part of an approved school course or program
- Under the cooperative supervision of the subject area teacher-coordinator and the employer.

**Note:** Because work study components are integrated with courses, no additional credit is awarded for the work study portion of the course.

## **Work Experience**

Work Experience 15-25-35 are separate courses that are available for credit. Each course is time-based; i.e., 25 hours per credit, and is available with variable credit options:

- Work Experience 15 – 3 to 10 credits
- Work Experience 25 – 3 to 10 credits
- Work Experience 35 – 3 to 10 credits

**Note:** Students will be able to count a maximum of 15 credits obtained in work experience toward their diploma requirements.

Career Readiness courses, available as components of the Career Transitions strand within the Career and Technology Studies program, are linked to the Work Experience 15-25-35 courses, and one mandatory course is:

- The introductory course, **CTR1010: Job Preparation**, is a required component of the first work experience course taken by a student. Some of the units include: Self Assessment, Job Search, Interviews, and Hazardous Materials.