

# Frequently Asked Questions



## Why does Alberta Education want to know if my child is Aboriginal?

This information will help Alberta Education learn about Aboriginal student achievement and allocate funding to improve learning and success for Aboriginal students.

## Will anyone else (besides Alberta Education and necessary school personnel) know my child's name, grade or marks?

No. We have ensured that individual learners cannot be identified.

## Will my child be treated differently if s/he identifies him/herself?

No. Schools must ensure that your child is treated with respect.

## Does this voluntary ancestry question apply to federally-funded First Nations students attending band-operated schools?

No. The ALDCI applies only to Aboriginal students attending public schools in Alberta.

# Alberta Education

Find out more about the Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative by contacting your local school or school board

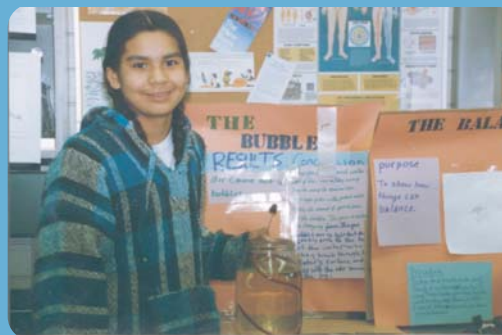
or

Visit the Alberta Education Web site:

[www.education.gov.ab.ca/aboriginal/alddci/](http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/aboriginal/alddci/)

Policy Branch  
9th floor, Commerce Place  
10155-102 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5J 4L5

Help Desk: (780) 427-5318  
Toll Free: 310-0000



# The Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative



## Voluntary Self-Identification

# Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative(ALDCI)

## Improving education opportunities for Aboriginal students

Alberta's education community is working together to improve programs that support Alberta's Aboriginal students. Voluntary self-identification is an important step towards this goal. Every school registration form in the province now has a question that asks First Nations, Métis and Inuit students to self-identify. This data about Aboriginal students is collected from school registration forms and compiled at a provincial level as part of the Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative (ALDCI).

## Voluntary self-identification

The voluntary self-identification question asks students to identify their Aboriginal identity. Answering this identity question is entirely voluntary. Only the student (and/or parent) can decide if they wish to identify themselves as Aboriginal.

## Aboriginal student identity question

This voluntary self-identification question is directed toward the student and should be answered based on the student's identity, as with all other questions on school registration forms.

# Voluntary, Aboriginal Self-Identification Question

## Aboriginal self-identification question

The voluntary self-identification question below is what you will see on school registration forms.

***If you wish to declare that you are an Aboriginal person, please specify:***

- o Status Indian/First Nations
- o Non-Status Indian/First Nations
- o Métis
- o Inuit

## The importance of accurate data

Accurate data about Aboriginal students ensures that school boards receive additional funding to provide the necessary programs and support to improve Aboriginal student success.

## Effective programs for Aboriginal students

Information about Aboriginal student achievement helps to measure and evaluate how effective school programs are for Aboriginal students.



## Measuring student achievement

Alberta Education is committed to ensuring that every child learns, every child succeeds. The ALDCI enables Alberta Education to determine high school completion rates, provincial achievement test results and diploma exam results for Aboriginal students.



## Student information is secure

The data collected about Aboriginal students is kept secure and confidential and is protected by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP)*. This *Act* ensures that personal information about individual students (name, grade or marks) cannot be identified.

## Schools are accountable

The ALDCI also assists schools to be accountable to their student population and for the additional funding received to assist Aboriginal students. Alberta Education will work with school divisions to monitor results and progress. Student success is a top-priority.