



Mathematics: What's New?

K–9 curriculum

Feedback on the 2013 Mathematics K–9 draft curriculum focused on four main needs:

- explicit inclusion of foundational skills
- less prescriptive learning outcomes
- integration of First Peoples Principles of Learning
- financial literacy

The redesigned Mathematics K–9 curriculum clarifies the inclusion of foundational skills; they are now clearly shown in the Content. Careful consideration has been given to the amount of content required at each grade level. The learning outcomes are less prescriptive than in the existing curriculum, allowing for more time to work with the concepts, develop skills, and apply them to problems in everyday life. Aboriginal perspectives are embedded in the curriculum, with linkages to the First Peoples Principles of Learning. A goal of the revised mathematics curriculum is for students to become financially literate and able to make sound financial decisions.

Features of the redesigned Mathematics curriculum include the following:

- There are four to six Big Ideas per grade, encompassing the four strands of Mathematics: number, patterns and relations, spatial sense, and statistics and probability.
- Foundational skills are clearly indicated in the Content for each grade.
- The focus on problem solving is apparent in the organization of the Curricular Competencies, which use a problem-solving model and offer Elaborations for teachers and students.
- Elaborations are included as hyperlinks throughout the curriculum as a support for teachers. Elaborations are not mandatory. They include definitions of key Mathematics terminology, examples of some Mathematics concepts, sample inquiry questions to support the exploration of concepts, and guidance on the level of depth suggested in the content.
- Content has been further aligned to support the developmental integrity of students.
- Aboriginal perspectives are reflected in the Content learning standards and Elaborations at each grade.
- The curriculum is designed for students to become financially literate and able to make sound financial decisions. The forthcoming Grades 10–12 draft curriculum will also ensure that regardless of the pathway chosen by a student, there will be a common experience in Mathematics that includes financial literacy.

The redesigned Mathematics K–9 curriculum retains important aspects of the existing curriculum:

- The foundational skills and processes of Mathematics remain an integral part of the Mathematics curriculum and reside in the Content and Curricular Competencies.
- Application of foundational skills to problem solving continues to have a strong focus in the curriculum’s goal of developing well-educated citizens.

Proposal for Grade 10–12 curriculum

Through the proposed curriculum for Grades 10–12, teachers will be able to provide a variety of options for students. To support the range of learning environments, program models, and school structures in secondary schools across British Columbia, the curriculum proposal comprises a provincial core (required) curriculum and an optional curriculum for students who wish to deepen their study in any one of five specialty areas or any interdisciplinary combination.

The draft provincial core curriculum includes the same curricular features as the K–9 curriculum (i.e., Big Ideas, Curricular Competencies, Content, and Elaborations). The Grade 10 curriculum is captured within two courses: Foundations and Pre-Calculus, and Workplace.

The provincial optional curriculum has also been outlined for Grades 11 and 12. At this level, students may choose from a variety of courses to build a comprehensive program based on their interests and strengths. Grade 11 includes Pre-Calculus, Foundations, and Workplace. Grade 12 options include Pre-Calculus, Foundations, Apprenticeship, Geometry, and Calculus.

Current IRPs	Proposed Provincial Optional Curriculum
Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-calculus 10	Grade 10 Foundations and Pre-Calculus
Apprenticeship and Workplace Mathematics 10	Grade 10 Workplace
Pre-calculus 11	Grade 11 Pre-Calculus
Foundations of Mathematics 11	Grade 11 Foundations
Apprenticeship and Workplace Mathematics 11	Grade 11 Workplace
Pre-calculus 12	Grade 12 Pre-Calculus
Foundations of Mathematics 12	Grade 12 Foundations
Apprenticeship and Workplace Mathematics 12	Grade 12 Apprenticeship
	Grade 12 Geometry
	Grade 12 Calculus

Whether students choose to pursue deeper or broader study in Mathematics, the new curriculum design ensures that they are able to pursue their individual interests and passions.

Discipline-Specific *or* Interdisciplinary Study

