



Science Alternative Program

RT Alderman School

Thursday, January 29, 2026



Alternative Programs



learning | **as unique** | as every student



Calgary Board of Education

Alternative Programs



Choice | Alternative Programs

- **Science**
- Indigenous Education
- Arts-Centred
- All Girls
- Languages (French, German, Mandarin, Spanish)
- Montessori
- Traditional Learning Centre (TLC)

Alternative Programs



Why Alternative Programs?

- We believe in providing families with choice, appealing to the interests and preferences of each individual student
- Alternative Programs focus on a particular language, culture, subject (Arts, Science), or teaching philosophy
- Informed choice is essential - what is THIS particular program about and how does it meet MY child's needs?

Alternative Programs



Inform | Key Messages

- Each program has unique features
- The integrity of the program remains the same across sites
- All sites follow Alberta Programs of Study with ATA certificated teachers
- All schools requiring a lottery follow the CBE lottery process
- Aligned with system timeframe for registration
- There is a designated Alternative Program school for each home address

Science Program



A Science Program Student:

- Has a love of science and curiosity about how the world works
- Has a willingness to take risks in learning and is comfortable with ambiguity
- Exemplifies a resiliency for learning in outdoor environments in all weather conditions

Science Program



A Science Program Classroom:

- Explores learning through engaging students through the practice of scientific inquiry and experiential learning
- Engages with experts in the field of science and technology
- Explores opportunities to participate in science across all areas of the curriculum, cross curricular learning
- Instills a collaborative approach to seeking solutions to complex problems

Science Program



The Science Program

- There is an emphasis on the development of scientific literacy
- There is a focus on critical thinking through science and technology perspectives across subject areas using Alberta Education curriculum
- There are extensive field studies to enhance classroom inquiry (approximately 10 per year) across all seasons

Science Program



Differences and similarities between a Community and a Science Program:

Differences:

- Students learn through the "lens of science"
- Focus on scientific inquiry
- Mandatory field studies
- Blended CTF program
- Focus on journaling

Similarities:

- *Alberta Curriculum*
- Daily Physical Education
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

Science Program



Important Considerations:

- Extra field study fee per student for whole class day trips
- Parent commitment to volunteer for field studies (3 times per year per child)
- Transportation fee
- Lunchroom supervision fee (gr. 1-6)
- Noon activity fee (gr. 7-9)
- Grade 5 & 6 student supply fee

Alternative Programs



Registration Timeline

- To have your Registration or Expression of Interest considered for the Lottery, it must be **completed and submitted by Noon on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026.**
- Schools will hold lotteries at Noon on Wednesday, Feb.11, 2026.
- Results of the lottery will be communicated to families **within 10 business days.**
- Families **will then have 10 business days** to respond to any offers of placement.

Alternative Programs



Lottery Process

- As the Science Program at RTA is at or overcapacity, the lottery process is used at each grade level.

Alternative Programs



Lottery Priority

Priority levels influence your chance of being offered a place at a lottery school. If unsuccessful in the lottery, students are placed on a callback list in order of priority level.

Priority 1

- Students living within the lottery zone who have a sibling (brother/sister [half or step, not cousins]) that will be attending the same program in the same school; concurrently (occurring or existing simultaneously).

Priority 2

- Students living outside the lottery zone but in the designated area for the school, who will have a sibling in the same program at the same school concurrently; or
- Students living within the lottery zone who do not have a sibling in the school.

Priority 3

- All other students living in the designated attendance area.

Alternative Programs



Registration is Online



Calgary Board of Education

Careers | News Centre | Staff | QuickLinks

Search Translate

Schools Programs **Registration** About Us Get Involved

- Registration
 - New Student Registration
 - Alternative Programs
 - New School Under Construction
 - Lottery
 - Registration Documentation
 - Browse All ->**
- Fees & Waivers
 - Central Fee Waiver
 - Flexible Payment Options
 - Find My School Fees
 - Fee Information Questions and Answers
 - Fees, Sales and Services Terms and Conditions
 - School Fees Background
 - Browse All ->**
- Records & Transcripts
 - Transfers
 - Forms You Need
 - Back to School
- Calendars
 - Instructional Calendar
 - Unique Settings
 - Dates of Significance
 - Bell Times
 - Browse All ->**

Current CBE Families | Expression of Interest

Alternative Programs



Alternative Programs

Select One Of The Following Options

<p>I Want To Register A Child</p> <p>I have other children in the CBE and I want to register another child for an alternative program</p> <p>Start Registration</p>	<p>Moving From One Program To Another</p> <p>My child is already registered in one program (regular or alternative) and I would like to move to a different program (regular or alternative)</p> <p>Move Programs</p>
--	--

Program Selection

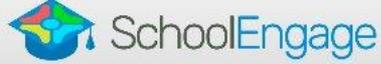
Select One

<p>Alternative Program</p> <p>I am seeking to move in to an Alternative Program.</p> <p>Alternative Program</p>	<p>Regular Program</p> <p>I am seeking to move into the Regular Program</p> <p>Regular Program</p>	<p>International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)</p> <p>I am seeking to move into the IB Programme</p> <p>IB Program</p>
--	---	--

Alternative Programs



New CBE Families | School Engage




School Registration

New to The Calgary Board of Education

If you are new to The Calgary Board of Education, please create an account in SchoolEngage.

[Create Account](#)

Sign In

Sign In to register new students and complete forms.

EMAIL

Please enter your email address

PASSWORD

[Forgot password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

Alternative Programs



Science Program Waitlist

- After the Lottery Process is completed in February, schools will continue to maintain a Waitlist at each grade level.
- The Waitlist dissolves at the beginning of September each year.

Alternative Programs



Name NOT drawn in the Lottery

If your child's name was not drawn in the lottery process for an alternative program, students may still **attend their designated regular program school.**

If families have selected more than one alternative program, **each school will notify you separately, sharing whether you have been accepted.**

Alternative Programs



Inform | Transportation

- The K-5 yellow bus transportation provides CBE congregated stop guidelines for alternative programs
- Transportation for grades 6-9 may be offered through congregated yellow bus stops or Calgary Transit (no rebates are provided)
- Parents pay an annual fee for CBE yellow bus service or purchase monthly Calgary Transit passes
- Congregated stops are reviewed annually and informed by pre-registration for transportation, online through [MyCBE/PowerSchool](#)
- Congregated stops may not be within walking distance and alternate arrangements may be required to access the congregated stop

Science Program



RT Alderman School

- Middle School - Grades 5-9
- 6 Period Schedule (1-6; 6-1)
- HUM & SMATH Specialists
- Art, Music and Band Specialists
- Gr 5 & 6 Integrated Recess
- Class Sizes 30ish
- + Male to Female Ratio
- We are **neurodiverse**
- We are continually working on supporting executive functioning

Science Program



RT Alderman School

- RTA Science Fair
 - Mandatory Grades 5-7
 - Optional Grades 8 & 9
- Math Contests
- Band Option in Grades 7-9
- Grade 9 BGI Kananaskis - University of Calgary Overnight Field Experience
- School Wide Stem Challenges
- Middle School Athletics

2025 - 2026 CTF Modules

Science Program



Grade 7

1. Business - Information Processing
2. Resources - Wildlife
3. Resources - Agriculture
4. Communication - Fashion Studies
5. Business - Enterprise & Innovation
6. Technology - Fabrication

Grade 8

1. Technology - Electro Technology
2. Business - Management and Marketing
3. Human Services - Esthetics
4. Human Services - Recreational Leadership
5. Human Services - Community Care Services

Grade 9

1. Communication - Design Studies
2. Human Services - Foods
3. Business - Financial Management
4. Technology - Construction
5. Resources - Environmental Stewardship



Thank You!

Please contact the school at rtalderman@cbe.ab.ca, if you have any further questions!