



Summary - DEA Duties & Responsibilities

For more information, please refer to the Nunavut Education Act

Responsibility	New	Old	Shared
<i>School Program</i>			
The DEA, working with the principal, monitors, evaluates and directs the delivery of the school program. The DEA is to ensure that the school program, including any local program, is based on Inuit societal values and the principles and concepts of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.	X		X
The DEA is responsible for providing students with textbooks and other learning materials to support the school program. It is also responsible for library, audiovisual and other resource materials required.		X	X
The DEA may establish local programs for the use of one or more schools. The DEA provides direction, as necessary, to the principal regarding other activities, programs and services necessary to support students.		X	X
The DEA supports the principal to develop ways to involve parents and promote community involvement in the school program.	X		X
The DEA may provide early childhood education programs to promote Inuit language fluency and adult education programs to meet local needs.	X		X
The DEA evaluates, supervises and provides support for children being home schooled.		X	X
<i>Language of Instruction</i>			
The DEA decides whether English or French will be used along with the Inuit language in its schools. The DEA also decides on the model or models of bilingual education to be used. This will determine things such as what is taught in each language and how much instructional time will be devoted to each language.	X		X
The models and options for bilingual education are set out in the regulations. They also set out the requirements to consult their community before the DEA decides on the model of bilingual education to be used.	X		X
The DEA is required to review the decisions it makes on bilingual education every five years. Based on the review, changes can be made to the bilingual program. A proposal to change requires further community consultation.	X		X
<i>Registration and Attendance</i>			
The DEA is required to develop a registration and attendance policy for its schools based on the Act and regulations. The policy should reflect the advice of parents, students, school staff, Elders and community members.		X	X
The DEA will consult with adult educators when considering registration of students aged 21 or older.	X		X
As soon as it is adopted, the policy is to be sent to the Minister. The Minister may require amendments in order to ensure it is consistent with the Act and regulations.		X	
The DEA regularly reports to the community on attendance in its schools.	X		X
<i>Inclusive Education</i>			

Responsibility	New	Old	Shared
Inclusive education is important to meeting the needs of all students. The DEA should work with its principals to get a full understanding of how inclusive education works and what the current issues are in its schools.		X	X
The DEA has the responsibility for supporting, providing learning materials and funding inclusive education in its schools. Specialized staff and capital equipment needs are acquired through special funding requests to the Department.		X	X
The DEA is to ensure that an assessment is carried out each school year on each student who is on an individual student support plan. This is to measure progress and make recommendation on any adjustments required to the plan.	X		
The DEA is responsible for mediating disputes between parents and the school team on inclusive education issues. If the mediation is not successful and a proper request for further review is received, the DEA is to establish as special review board.	X		X
The DEA and all others involved are to base their inclusive education decisions on Inuit societal values and the principles and concepts of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit.		X	X
Student Participation			
The DEA develops and adopts the Inuuqatigiitsiarniq policy for its schools consistent with the regulations. The policy is to ensure a positive, safe and supporting school environment. The DEA also develops programs to support the policy.	X		
The Policy and supporting programs are developed using Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, particularly the principles of Inuuqatigiitsiarniq and Piliriqatigiinniq. They are submitted to the Minister who may request amendments to ensure the policy is consistent with the Act and regulations.		X	X
As outlined in sections 63 and 65, the DEA may suspend or expel a student.		X	
Suspension can be for up to 20 school days. The DEA carries out this responsibility consistent with Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, particularly the principles of Inuuqatigiitsiarniq, Tunnganarniq and Piliriqatigiinniq.	X		
School Calendar			
Before the beginning of the school year the DEA establishes the calendar for each school in its district. In preparing the calendar, it consults with the principal, school staff and the community and considers local cultural practices and the regulations. The DEA is guided by the principles of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, particularly Pijitsirniq and Aajiiqatigiinniq, in this work.		X	X
Unplanned school closing due to weather or for other reasons may result in lost instructional hours. If the DEA determines that too many hours have been lost they consult with the Minister and the community regarding options for making up lost instructional time.	X		X
A copy of each school's calendar is provided to the Minister. The Minister may require changes to be consistent with the Act and regulations.		X	X
School Staff			
Teachers: The DEA has the right to appoint at least one member to participate on each teacher hiring panel established for a school under its		X	X

Responsibility	New	Old	Shared
jurisdiction.			
Innait Inuksiutilirijiit: The DEA is responsible to identify individuals with the skills, knowledge and abilities for these positions in their schools. They recommend these persons to the Minister to receive a certificate of their expertise.	X		
Principals: The DEA establishes a panel to recommend a principal for a school. The panel consists of one or more members appointed by the DEA, plus an employee of the Department appointed by the Minister. The persons appointed by the DEA may be members of the DEA. The panel makes its recommendation to the Minister, who makes the appointment of the principal. Re-appointment of a principal follows the same process.	X		X
The DEA provides direction to the principal. Direction should be written and from the DEA, not individual members. They should not conflict with the Act, regulations or directions from the Minister authorized by the Act. For instance, the Minister can give directions related to teaching standards, the delivery of the education program, the promotion of students and teacher professional development. The DEA has the primary authority to give directions to principals on all other topics, unless its direction conflicts with the Act or regulations.	X		X
The DEA and an employee of the Department assess the performance of each principal and vice-principal. That is done in every year during the initial appointment and in the final year of each re-appointment period.		X	X
The DEA may recommend to the Minister that a principal be disciplined. The Minister decides if action is required and informs the DEA of how the matter was dealt with.	X		
The DEA may, as outlined in section 108 if the Act, recommend to the Minister that a principal be dismissed. This is only during the initial period of employment. That recommendation must be made at least 90 days before the last day the principal is to work in the school year.	X		
Responsibilities for Funds			
The funds provided to the DEA are used to carry out its responsibilities under the Act and regulations. Funds provided without a specific designation or purpose can be allocated or re-allocated by the DEA in the manner it decides is appropriate. Funds provided by government for a specific purpose must be used for that purpose.	X		
The DEA holds its funds in a bank and uses them in accordance with the regulations. The Minister may give the DEA direction regarding financial management.	X		
The accounts of the DEA are audited every year. In addition, the Minister may require the auditor to do additional examinations or reports related to financial or other matters.	X		
General Duties of the DEA			
The DEA is responsible for providing public education in its district. As described in sections 137-148 of the Act, that involves a number of specific responsibilities including the following:		X	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with all those interested in the education system to 		X	X

Responsibility	New	Old	Shared
achieve excellence and quality in education, support students and contribute to life-long learning			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying out its Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit duties under the Act including supporting the use of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in its school 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting its business and administering its schools using good management principles including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keeping full and accurate records, 		X	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Considering comments and recommendations provided by students, student representatives, parents and school staff, 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establishing committees for Inuuqatigiitsiarniq, attendance, finance and human resources, 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing direction to the principal to ensure school facilities are properly maintained, in good condition and accessible for use including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Making the schools available for use by community organizations and for community events when they are not needed for school purposes, 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensuring the appropriate people and organizations in the community know how to access and use school facilities, 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensuring property is well maintained and, if owned by the DEA, is insured to the reasonable extent; 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the public in its district about public education and provide the Minister with reports and the information the Minister requires; 		X	X
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an annual report, as required under section 96 of the Financial Administration Act including information on the administration and operation of the DEA and its schools and the carrying out of IQ duties. The annual report shall be made public. 		X	
DEA members need to be familiar with the staff and operation of schools. The DEA need to develop a school visitation plan so that members can visit schools from time to time to observe. DEA members who need to be present during the school day without a school staff member must have had a criminal reference check done and filed with the Minister. When children are present it is best for DEA members to be accompanied by a school staff member.		X	X



Summary of DEA Responsibility
Policy, Program, Administration
Please refer to the Education Act for more information

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The DEA supports the principal to develop ways to involve parents and promote community involvement in the school program.		X	
The DEA may provide early childhood education programs to promote Inuit language fluency and adult education programs to meet local needs.		X	
Language of Instruction			
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The DEA is required to review the decisions it makes on bilingual education every five years. Based on the review, changes can be made to the bilingual program. A proposal to change requires further community consultation.	X		
Registration and Attendance			
The DEA will consult with adult educators when considering registration of students aged 21 or older.	X		
The DEA regularly reports to the community on attendance in its schools.	X		
Inclusive Education			
The DEA is to ensure that an assessment is carried out each school year on each student who is on an individual student support plan. This is to measure progress and make recommendation on any adjustments required to the plan.		X	

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Student Participation			
The DEA develops and adopts the Inuuqatigiitsiarniq policy for its schools consistent with the regulations. The policy is to ensure a positive, safe and supporting school environment. The DEA also develops programs to support the policy.	X		
Suspension can be for up to 20 school days. The DEA carries out this responsibility consistent with Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, particularly the principles of Inuuqatigiitsiarniq, Tunnganarniq and Piliriqatigiinniq.	X		
School Calendar			
Unplanned school closing due to weather or for other reasons may result in lost instructional hours. If the DEA determines that too many hours have been lost they consult with the Minister and the community regarding options for making up lost instructional time.	X		
School Staff			
Innait Inuksiutilirijiit: The DEA is responsible to identify individuals with the skills, knowledge and abilities for these positions in their schools. They recommend these persons to the Minister to receive a certificate of their expertise.			X
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with the Act or regulations.			
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The funds provided to the DEA are used to carry out its responsibilities under the Act and regulations. Funds provided without a specific designation or purpose can be allocated or re-allocated by the DEA in the manner it decides is appropriate. Funds provided by government for a specific purpose must be used for that purpose.			X
The DEA holds its funds in a bank and uses them in accordance with the regulations. The Minister may give the DEA direction regarding financial management.			X
The accounts of the DEA are audited every year. In addition, the Minister may require the auditor to do additional examinations or reports related to financial or other matters.			X