International Credit Transfer Process Change for Saskatchewan Secondary Level High School Students

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the International Credit Transfer process in Saskatchewan changing?

- Academic credential assessment services will now be provided by the International Qualification Assessment Service (IQAS) in Alberta or the International Credential Assessment Service of Canada (ICAS) in Ontario.
- This change is being made to provide international students coming to Saskatchewan access to secondary level credit assessments in the quickest way possible.
- High school administrators and guidance counselors will use the assessment to immediately register new international students into courses using the online Credit Transfer Web Application on the Student Data System.
- Only assessments from IQAS or ICAS will be accepted by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education because they are the two entities accredited by the Council of Ministers of Education Canada.g

How does this impact refugees?

• Exceptional circumstances may require a change to the process on a case-by-case basis. Contact credit.transfer@gov.sk.ca with your inquiry.

What organizations need to know this information?

 Schools, school divisions, welcome/newcomer centres, provincial and federal governments, and the general public may access the international secondary level credit transfer information online here.

How does this process change benefit the student?

Students may apply for this secondary level course-by-course assessment prior to arriving
in Saskatchewan. They will have the opportunity to arrive in Saskatchewan with the
assessment completed, eliminating the wait to register in secondary level programs.

Is there a cost for an IQAS or ICAS assessment of secondary level credits?

• The fee is approximately \$200 and is the responsibility of the student and family. Information on the fee structure and the process for a secondary level course-by-course credit assessment is available online at www.icascanada.ca or www.alberta.ca/iqas-immigration-apply.



How will newly arriving families pay for the service if banking has not been arranged in Canada? Will this delay the process?

- Students may apply for this course-by-course assessment prior to arriving in Saskatchewan. Students may also be placed in the Saskatchewan secondary level program at the discretion of the school administration. Please refer to the <u>Registrar's Handbook for School Administrators</u> for program information.
- Contact student.records@gov.sk.ca with your inquiries.

Is this process being used across Canada?

- Each province or territory provides direction on student programming and international high school transfer credits.
- IQAS supports local school divisions and territories with secondary level international credit transfer equivalencies as required. IQAS is a branch within the Government of Alberta.
- ICAS supports local school divisions and territories with secondary level international credit transfer equivalencies as required. ICAS is a non-government entity in Ontario.

How long will the assessment results take?

• On average a secondary assessment will take approximately six weeks. Please contact IOAS or ICAS for further information.

How long will the immediate unofficial profile take to be returned to the school?

 School administration will use IQAS or ICAS course-by-course assessment to have an immediate unofficial profile for the international student using the existing credit transfer web application. This would eliminate the current wait time for student registration and course selection.

Will the student be allowed to register for and attend classes on the basis of the immediate unofficial profile?

 Yes. The school administration will provide secondary level programming for the student based on the unofficial profile and school capacity.

What if the student has a complete secondary standing from another jurisdiction?

• An evaluation will not be completed by IQAS or ICAS if the student has a complete secondary standing from out-of-country. The student will be upgrading or attaining additional secondary (high school) credits if enrolling in a secondary high school program.

What are the steps to transfer international high school credits to a Saskatchewan school?

- Step 1: Student/family contacts IQAS or ICAS for a course-by-course high school assessment for Saskatchewan.
- Step 2: Student/family requests an official copy of IQAS or ICAS course-by-course high school assessment be sent directly to credit.transfer@gov.sk.ca; or

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- Step 3: Student/family provides a copy of the IQAS or ICAS course-by-course high school assessment to the school administrator.
- Step 4: School administrator follows the International Credit Transfer Process in the diagram below.

International Credit Transfer Process

