



## 530: School Fees and Student Hardship (P)

Approved: 97 10 28

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### POLICY

The Board of Education of School District 70 Pacific Rim (the Board) is committed to providing a wide range of educational opportunities for all students and ensuring that financial hardship will not become a barrier to participation in school activities or programs.

The Board believes that:

- every child has the right to complete a graduation program,
- all students should have equitable access to learning opportunities for achievement and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of their educational programs,
- participation in activities by school age students resident in the school district must be facilitated where financial hardships exists,
- and any fees charged will be on a cost recovery basis.

The Board recognizes its obligation pursuant to the *School Act* is to provide, free of charge to school age students resident in the school district, instruction in an educational program sufficient to meet the general graduation requirements, as well as educational resource materials necessary for participation in such a program.

The *School Act*, S82 governs school related fees and deposits. Board of Education Fees (ministry order M236/07) and Provincial Fees (ministry order M140/89) further explains fees and deposits related to graduation from schools in B.C. To this end, schools may not charge fees for goods and services required to meet the learning outcomes or assessment requirements of the schools' educational programs except as permitted by ministerial orders.

In accordance with the *School Act*, Section 82.4, no student of school age will be denied an educational program due to financial hardship. Further, no student of school age will be denied the opportunity to participate in a course, specialty academy, trades program, and/or activity associated with a course, specialty academy, or trades program in which they are enrolled because of financial hardship.

### Reference

School Act of British Columbia

Ministerial Orders, Province of British Columbia