



Introduction

Completing senior high school will provide your teen with knowledge, skills, and experiences that are important for future studies or for a job.

For most jobs in Alberta, students need at least a high school diploma or other high school completion certification. Certain courses are mandatory to meet [Alberta High School Diploma](#) and [Certificate of High School Achievement](#) requirements. To be accepted into many post-secondary programs, specific senior high school or senior high school equivalent courses are required.

Parents and students should discuss the best route to meeting graduation requirements with a senior high school counsellor or school administrator. To help your teen select appropriate courses and course sequences, refer to the [High School Graduation Requirements](#).

Biology

Alberta's high school science program is guided by the vision that all students have the opportunity to develop scientific literacy. Students will develop the science-related knowledge, skills, and attitudes that they need to solve problems and make decisions, and at the same time help them become lifelong learners, maintaining their sense of wonder about the world around them.

At the end of Biology 30, your teen will write a provincial diploma exam. These exams determine if students across the province are learning what they are expected to learn. For more information on diploma exams, visit [Writing diploma exams](#).

Biology 20

How and why does energy flow through living systems?
Biology 20 students examine the interactions of living systems to better understand the constant flow of energy and the cycling of matter. Specifically, students explore the

functioning of the human body and the mechanisms that work to maintain balance in organisms—in ecosystems and in the biosphere.

What Your Teen Is Learning

Your teen will explore human body systems—digestive, respiratory, circulatory, excretory, immune, and motor—and examine how to maintain a steady, healthy body state. They'll learn how energy from the Sun is transformed into usable energy for cells so that cells can perform daily functions. Your teen will also analyze factors that influence species diversity, describe mechanisms that lead to population changes over time, and examine the cycling of matter and the flow of energy in ecosystems by interpreting food webs and ecological pyramids. For more information about Biology 20, refer to the [program of studies](#).

Where can I get more information?

Learn more about your child's education by visiting <https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/parents/>.