



OPENING *an* INDEPENDENT SCHOOL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA



Before You Begin

Applicants should familiarize themselves with the information on the B.C. Ministry of Education and Child Care [Establishing an Independent School](#) webpage. Please note that applying to open a new school requires approval.



1. Expression of Interest

Complete and submit the 'Expression of Interest' on the [Independent School B.C. Portal](#).

Submission accepted

July 1 to September 15.



2. Application Submission

Please see [Application Checklist](#).

By invitation only

Refer to checklist after invitation. Early submissions are welcome. Interview invitations will be given based on the order in which applications are approved. Responses will be sent after October 28.



3. Interview

The purpose of the interview is to review application submission documents and assess readiness to operate an education program.

By invitation only

Interview to be completed no later than March 15. Applicants should be prepared to interview anytime after November 12th.



4. Precertification Submission

Final confirmation of grade range, facility, municipal, compliance and bond (if applicable).

Must be received by June 1



5. Interim Certification

Recruitment, advertising, or marketing may only begin in accordance with the policy - [see policy for details](#).

Ministry Issuance

No later than June 30.



6. School Opening

School Opening

First week of September.



7. External Evaluation

A successful inspection is required prior to final certification.

September-October



8. Certification

Certification will be issued once all issues identified in the external evaluation are resolved.

