



## Grades 10-12 Northern Distance Learning (NDL) - Eligibility Standards

Northern Distance Learning (NDL) is an online program that supplements small community high school programming with courses the local school cannot offer. NDL is intended for students who have post-secondary education plans (i.e., college or university) and have shown high academic and attendance standards.

For a student to be successful in NDL, they must be a self-directed learner, which means they show initiative and can independently organize and manage their time and work. A student who is not self-directed is unlikely to be successful in an NDL atmosphere. Although there is an NDL teacher live online and an In-class Support Person with the student in their school, a student must be capable of completing assignments and staying motivated without consistent access to their teacher.

A vetting committee reviews NDL applicants according to the following eligibility standards:

1. **Completed application.** There is one application for students to complete, which includes a *Statement of Reasoning*, *Learner Profile*, *Parent/Guardian Consent* and the student's *Validation Statement*. Completing the application is one indicator that the student has the qualities of an independent learner.
2. **High attendance rate.** Students who succeed in NDL typically have high attendance rates in school. Students who have not attended school regularly may not be eligible.
3. **Prerequisite scores of 65%.** For a student to be successful in NDL, they should be prepared to be challenged. A student should achieve at least 65% in prerequisite courses. Although 65% is the recommended course score, students who have passed courses will still be considered.
4. **Proper prerequisite courses.** As with all NWT high school students, NDL students must complete proper prerequisite courses to be registered in their selected course; -1 courses require the completion of -1 prerequisites.
5. **Past NDL experience (if applicable).** If a student has not been successful in previous NDL courses, the program may not be suitable for them. When a student has challenges passing NDL courses, the principal, student and parents should have a discussion about how to support the student's learning and whether NDL is the best fit.
6. **Age.** Students must be under the age of 21 at the beginning of the school year to be eligible for NDL.