

TYOLOGY OF PAPRS RECORDS ATTRIBUTES

Credential Type, Program Type, Level of Study

PAPRS (the registry of ministry-approved programs in Alberta) requires the categorization of all programs according to credential type, program type and level of study. Standard definitions or descriptors foster accuracy of recording, This PAPRS typology is compatible with the Alberta Credentials Framework, but uses alternate or abbreviated descriptions.

Credential Type

The type of formal qualification awarded, for successful completion of a ministry-approved program of study. (Non-credential qualifications do not result in the awarding of a credential or parchment).

- **Credential Type is a first order categorization in PAPRS.**
- **There are 4 Credential Types.**

Credential Type	PSP Branch Definition/Description
Certificate	A ministry-approved certificate program at undergraduate or graduate levels.
Diploma	A ministry-approved diploma program at undergraduate or graduate levels.
Degree	A ministry-approved degree program at undergraduate or graduate levels.
Non-Credential	Ministry-approved teaching and learning activities that do not culminate in a parchment/credential.

Program Type

A structured collection of educational activities (courses and other learning activities) arranged within a program to meet a set of learning outcomes.

- **Program type is a second order categorization in PAPRS that describes the structure and key characteristics of an educational program.**
- **There are 24 Program Types.**

Program Type and their Definitions

Program Type	PSP Branch Definition/Description
Standard Certificate	Post-secondary undergraduate ministry-approved certificate programs of 12-32 credits. This category excludes journeyman and "post" certificate programs.
Post-Diploma Certificate	An undergraduate ministry-approved certificate of 18 – 30 credits that requires a diploma for admission.
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate	An undergraduate ministry-approved certificate of 24-36 credits that requires a bachelor's degree for admission instructed at a senior undergraduate level.
Journeyman Certificate	A certificate issued by Apprenticeship and Industry Training for apprenticeship training.

Program Type	PSP Branch Definition/Description
Pre-Employment Certificate	A sub-category of standard ministry-approved certificates that are less than one year. Graduates are eligible to write AIT exams.
Graduate Certificate	A graduate ministry-approved certificate of 12-26 credits that requires a bachelor's degree for admission instructed at a master's level.
Post-Master's Certificate	A graduate ministry approved certificate of a minimum of 12 credits that requires a master's degree for admission.
Post-Doctoral Certificate	A graduate ministry-approved certificate of a minimum of 12 credits that requires a doctoral degree for admission.
Standard Diploma	An undergraduate ministry-approved diploma of 60-80 credits.
Graduate Diploma	A graduate ministry-approved diploma of a minimum of 18 credits that requires a bachelor's degree for admission, instructed at a master's level.
Post-Master's Diploma	A graduate ministry-approved diploma of a minimum of 18 credits that requires a master's degree for admission, instructed at a doctoral level.
Post-Doctoral Diploma	A graduate ministry-approved diploma that requires a doctoral degree for admission, instructed at doctoral or post-doctoral level.
Applied Degree	An undergraduate ministry-approved applied degree that requires a diploma as admission, and is 60 credits: 30 credits course work and 30 credits directed field study. <i>* Used exclusively for historical records.</i>
Bachelor's Degree	An undergraduate ministry-approved bachelor's degree that is 90-120 credits and is of a typical 4-year duration.
Master's Degree	A graduate ministry- approved master's degree.
Doctoral Degree	A graduate ministry-approved doctoral degree.
Adult Basic Education (Non-Credential)	Courses that support the development of literacy and numeracy and map to pre-high school competencies.
Academic Upgrading (Non-Credential)	Courses that map to 80% of the grades 10-12 Alberta Education curriculum and high school equivalency courses.
Second Language Learning (Non-Credential)	English language courses for individuals whose first language is other than English.
Professional Development (Non-Credential)	Programming focused on development of career focused skills, attitudes and knowledge.
Integrated Training (Non-Credential)	Programming designed for particular groups of learners that focus on employability skills, applied academics/ESL and occupation related skills.

Program Type	PSP Branch Definition/Description
Occupational (Non-Credential)	Introductory and applied programming that prepares students for direct entry into an occupational sector.
Open Studies (Non-Credential)	Credit college and university courses that allow students to take courses prior to formal admission into ministry-approved programs. Students are ineligible to graduate with an Open Studies designation.
University Transfer (Non-Credential)	Credit university courses for which formal transfer agreements are in place between two or more PSIs. Often university transfer programs are one year in length.

Level of Study

- **Level of study is a third order categorization in PAPRS that positions programs according to whether they are graduate, undergraduate or foundational level.**
- **There are 12 Levels of Study.**

Level of study and their Definitions:

Level of Study	PSP Branch Definition
Undergraduate	College and University programs at an undergraduate level.
Master's	Graduate university programs at a master's level.
Doctoral	Graduate university programs at a doctoral level.
Life Skills and Personal Management	Preparatory type programming which focuses on personal management and employability skill development.
Pre-High School	Literacy and preparatory type programming at levels below high school.
High School	Programming that is at high school level (grades 10-12).
Technical Entrance Preparation	Programming that prepares students for entry into trades and technology training, usually at a high school level.
UCEP (University/College Entrance Preparation)	Programming that prepares students for entry into college and university programs.
GED Preparation	Preparation and coaching to prepare students to write GED exams.
ESL (English as a Second Language)	English language instruction for students whose first language is other than English.
Bridging	Programming for internationally trained professionals and skilled workers to aid transition into the Canadian labour market.
Career Preparation	Programming that focuses on preparing students for direct entry to employment or to planning educational and career pathways.

* *Related Document: Supported Mapping Routes in PAPRS*