

Aboriginal Self-Identification Process

What is Aboriginal Self-Identification?

This process provides an opportunity for those of Aboriginal ancestry - First Nation, Métis or Inuit to identify their ancestry to the York Region District School Board.

Why is the York Region District School Board engaging in the Aboriginal Self-Identification Process?

This process supports the Ministry of Education's document - *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework Document 2007*. Through the self-identification of Aboriginal ancestry, the York Region District School Board will be able to provide expanded supports to First Nation, Métis and Inuit children.

How will self-identification help students of Aboriginal ancestry?

The York Region District School Board is committed to providing supports to ensure that all students of Aboriginal ancestry are successful. The self-identification process will help the Board collect data to determine if students of Aboriginal ancestry, especially those who experience gaps in their education, are receiving the appropriate level of support to achieve their full potential. EQAO scores, credit accumulation patterns, retention rates, and graduation rates will be key sources of data used to monitor the success of students of Aboriginal ancestry in York Region. This information will also help to extend the supports available to students with specific needs.

How do those of Aboriginal ancestry register?

Students who are already attending a York Region District School Board elementary or secondary school can register by completing an Aboriginal Self-Identification Form which can be obtained from the home school. New students who are registering to attend a York Region District School Board elementary or secondary school can have their Aboriginal status recorded when the Student Registration Form is being completed. For students under eighteen years of age, the Aboriginal Self-Identification Form requires parent/guardian approval.

Who will have access to this information?

Personal information is collected pursuant to Ministry of Education's document - *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework Document 2007*. Completed Aboriginal Self-Identification Forms will be submitted to the school's Supervisory Officer. This data will then be recorded in York Region's Student Management System to support the analysis of trends in student success. Individual student data will be kept confidential.

How is Aboriginal ancestry defined?

Definitions are found both in [Board Policy 601, Supports for Aboriginal Students](#) and in the [Aboriginal Self-Identification Brochure](#).