

The Learning Centre (TLC) Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is TLC?

The Learning Centre (TLC) is an online, ASBA members' only, learning platform.

2. Why was TLC developed?

Effective school boards have a positive impact on student achievement and success. Ongoing and timely professional development improves a board's effectiveness and impact.

ASBA decided to develop TLC, an online learning environment, to complement ASBA's existing face-to-face professional development events. A blended approach (a mixture of face-to-face and online professional development opportunities) is an educational best practice.

3. Who can access TLC?

Any ASBA member (a trustee who is part of a member school board) or ASBA staff. It is a secure environment: this means you have to have a username and password to use it.

4. How can TLC be accessed?

TLC is accessed through the members' only section of the website. You can connect anywhere, anytime, and on any device, using your ASBA generated username and password.

5. What's available on TLC?

TLC has three main types of materials. First, there are courses of interest to school board members. You can also access extensive information, such as reports, external websites and podcasts related to school boards as well as a glossary of terms.

6. How are topics for the courses and materials chosen?

ASBA does annual learning needs surveys with membership, asking for your opinions into what you would like to learn and to see on TLC. Your feedback, evolving trends and current issues are all considered. Make sure to complete the learning needs surveys to have your voice heard!

7. What types of courses are there?

Currently, there are courses that you can work through at your own pace. ASBA plans to add instructor-led courses in the future.

Knowing that different people learn in different ways, ASBA has ensured that there are a variety of course types and resources on TLC. There are video, audio, visual, textual and scenario-based options.

Courses are also organized by governance mode: fiduciary, generative, strategic, societal and relational. Courses are further refined by the competency they address; a competency is a specific knowledge or skill; for example strategic planning or budget oversight. Courses are also designed to be specific to Alberta school boards and thus reflect the Alberta context.

8. How can you leave feedback?

You can provide feedback into each of the courses you take. You can also rate the course. ASBA uses both of these feedback measures to improve the courses for you and your colleagues.

Remember you can also provide feedback into the types of things you want to see in TLC by completing the learning needs surveys once a year.

You can also email the ASBA team any time at: thelearningcentre@asba.ab.ca