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|  | DIRECTIONAL SIGNS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS | | Issued: JAN 2006 |
| | | | Revised: OCT 2007 |
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| RECOMMENDED PRACTICES | PART | HIGHWAY SIGNS | |
| | SECTION | GUIDE AND INFORMATION | |
| | SUB-SECTION | | |

General

Institutions offering post-secondary education serve many adjacent urban and rural communities. They include universities, colleges and post-secondary technical or trade schools. University centres usually serve the entire region or province.

Major educational institutions are located in urban or suburban areas along major arterial or collector routes. University centres are typically located in large cities near major city arterial routes.

Most educational institutions have large identification signs installed on their property. The identification signs display the name of the institution and often provide other information related to the operation of the facility. Large university centres often have trailblazer signs installed along major city arterials or collector routes leading to the centre. The trailblazer signs often include a logo or a symbol of the university (e.g., University of Alberta trailblazer sign).

The motoring public uses city or town maps, local trailblazer signs and institution identification signs to locate the site when they navigate along the street network. Usually maps and informational material published by the institution provide sufficient information about the facility location.

In some situations, where an educational institution is located away from the major roadways system directional signs may be provided to assist the motorists in navigating to the educational institution site.

Standard

A standard directional sign to an institution is a fingerboard sign with black lettering provided on a white background.



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| | Variable x 600 mm | |
| Colour | Text and border Background | Black White |
| Sheeting | ASTM Type III | |

The sign displays the name and type of the institution and may also indicate a distance to the site.

No advertising or other information about the institution such as a web-site address or business phone numbers will be allowed on a directional sign.

Guidelines for Use

In general, directional signs to educational institutions located in urban centres are not needed since the attending public can easily locate the site using the institution address and the city or town maps.

Consideration should also be given to the institution size and the number of trips likely to be generated by the site.

Directional signs to a post-secondary educational institution may be considered if all of the following conditions are met:

- The post-secondary institution is located in a rural area.
- The post-secondary institution is accessible from the provincial highway.
- The institution is open to the general public and its name has been recognized by the provincial or regional school authorities.
- The institution qualifies as a high traffic generator.

Directional signs will not be permitted if the institution is located adjacent to the highway and has identification signs visible to the motoring public.

Directional signs will not be permitted for elementary and high schools, only post-secondary institutions.

Guidelines for Placement

A directional sign to an educational institution should be placed at the nearest provincial highway intersection providing access to the facility site.

Signs should be placed 150 to 300 metres in advance of the intersection or at the beginning of a deceleration taper in accordance with the Recommended Practices Placement of Signs guideline.

Two signs will be permitted for the institution (one for each direction of travel).

A municipality where the institution is located may provide supplementary trailblazer signs along local roads leading to the facility.

Installation and Maintenance

The requirements for fabricating, installing and maintaining directional signs to institutions are stipulated in the sign permit issued by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation.

The sign applicant can choose one of the two methods to handle the fabrication and delivery of signs:

- Managed by a private contractor.

The sign applicant is responsible for arranging with the private contractor to fabricate signs in accordance with the provincial sign standards and specifications. Signs are delivered for installation to a location specified by the Departmental Maintenance Contractor.

- Managed by the Departmental Maintenance Contractor.

The permit stipulates conditions under which the Departmental Maintenance Contractor arranges for the fabrication and delivery of signs.

Under the requirements of the sign permit, the Departmental Maintenance Contractor arranges for the installation of signs within the highway right-of-way.

Such arrangement will guarantee compliance with the departmental installation requirements and will ensure that Traffic Accommodation Strategy (T.A.S) procedures are followed.

The sign applicant will be responsible for any subsequent replacement of signs and supporting structures as well as any sign repairs with options to use either a private contractor or the Departmental Maintenance Contractor to complete the required maintenance activities.

All costs associated with fabricating, installing and maintaining signs will be the responsibility of the sign applicant.

References to Standards

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| <i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: General | Placement of Signs |
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