

## Instruction

### High School Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students

*[For high school and unit districts]*

#### Correspondence Courses Credit for Non-District Experiences

A student ~~enrolled in a correspondence course~~ may receive high school credit for ~~work completed, provided~~ successfully completing any of the listed courses or experiences even when it is not offered in or sponsored by the District:

- ~~1. The course is given by an institution accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools;~~
- ~~2. The student assumes responsibility for all fees; and~~
- ~~3. The Building Principal approves the course in advance.~~

~~A maximum of 3 credits may be counted toward the requirements for a student's high school graduation.~~

#### Distance Learning Courses, Including Virtual or Online Courses

- ~~1. A student enrolled in a distance-learning course, including a correspondence, virtual, or online course, may receive high school credit for work completed, provided:~~
- ~~1. The course is offered by an institution approved by the Superintendent or designee;~~
- ~~2. The course is not offered at the student's high school or the student previously failed the course.~~
- ~~3. The student assumes responsibility for all fees (including tuition and textbooks); and~~
- ~~4. The Building Principal approves the course Courses in advance.~~

~~Students may be limited as to the number of distance learning courses that apply toward high school credit. Grades earned in approved distance learning courses count toward a student's grade point average, class rank, and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities. The District may pay the fee for expelled students who are permitted to take virtual or online courses in alternative settings.~~

#### Exchange Programs

~~An exchange student will be granted a diploma if he or she completes the criteria for graduation established by the State of Illinois and the School Board. The Board may grant a certificate of attendance to exchange students.~~

- ~~2. District students will receive high school credit for an accredited foreign exchange courses that meet the criteria established in the curriculum and that are approved by the Building Principal. International study course work not meeting District requirements may be placed in the student's permanent record and recorded as an international study experience program~~

#### Summer School and Independent Study

~~A student will receive high school credit for successfully completing: (1) any course given by an institution accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and (2) independent study in a curriculum area not offered by the District, provided the student obtains the consent of a supervising teacher as well as the Building Principal.~~

#### College Courses

- ~~3. A student who successfully completes school or community college courses may receive high school credit, provided:~~
- ~~1. The student is a senior in good academic standing;~~
- ~~2. The course is not offered in the high school curriculum;~~

~~3. The course is approved in advance by the student's guidance counselor and the High School Principal; and~~

~~4. The student assumes responsibility for all fees.~~

~~A maximum of 6 units of credit may be counted toward the requirements for a student's high school graduation.~~

#### Dual Credit Courses

~~4. A student who successfully completes a College courses offering dual credit course may receive credit courses at both the college and high school level.~~

#### Foreign Language Courses

~~5. A student will receive high school credit by studying foreign language courses taken in an approved ethnic school program, provided such program meets the minimum standards established by the approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.~~

~~The amount of credit will be based on foreign language proficiency achieved. The Building Principal may require a student seeking foreign language credit to successfully complete a foreign language proficiency examination.~~

#### Military Service

~~The Board may accept military service experience as credit toward graduation, provided the student making the request has a recommendation from the U.S. Commission of Accreditation of Service Experiences. The student seeking credit shall supply any documents or transcripts necessary to support the request.~~

#### Volunteer Service Credit Program

~~A student may earn high school credit through community service activities. The Superintendent shall implement the volunteer service credit program to ensure student enrichment, educational growth, and personal welfare. Students shall receive the amount of credit given for the completion of one semester of language arts, math, science, or social studies.~~

~~6. Work-related training at manufacturing facilities or agencies in a Youth Apprenticeship Vocational Education Program (Tech Prep)~~

~~Students participating in the Youth Apprenticeship Vocational Education Program (Tech Prep) may earn credit toward graduation for work-related training received at manufacturing facilities or agencies.~~

~~7. Credit earned in a Vocational Academy~~

~~Students enrolled in the Vocational Academy earn credit toward graduation as provided in the Academy's design.~~

The student must seek approval from the Superintendent or designee to receive graduation credit for any non-District course or experience. The Superintendent or designee shall determine the amount of credit and whether a proficiency examination is required before the credit is awarded. As approval is not guaranteed, students should seek conditional approval of the experience before participating in a non-District course or experience. The student assumes responsibility for any fee, tuition, supply, or other expense. The student seeking credit is responsible for (1) providing documents or transcripts that demonstrate successful completion of the experience, and (2) taking a proficiency examination, if requested. The Superintendent or designee shall determine which, if any, non-District courses or experiences, will count toward a student's grade point average, class rank, and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities. This section does not govern the transfer of credits for students transferring into the District.

Substitutions for ~~Physical Education, Adapted Physical Education and Other~~ Required Courses

**Vocational or technical education.** A student in grades 9-12 may satisfy one or more high school courses (including physical education) or graduation requirements by successfully completing related vocational or technical education courses if:

1. The Building Principal approves the substitution and the vocational or technical education course is completely described in curriculum material along with its relationship to the required course; and
2. The student's parent/guardian requests and approves the substitution in writing on forms provided by the District.

**Advanced placement computer science.** The advanced placement computer science course is equivalent to a high school mathematics course. A student in grades 9-12 may substitute the advanced placement computer science course for one year of mathematics, in accordance with Section 27-22 of the School Code. The transcript of a student who completes the advanced placement computer science course will state that it qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative course.

**Substitutions for physical education.** A student in grades 9-12, unless otherwise stated, may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated below. The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances, as appropriate.

1. Enrollment in a marching band program for credit;
2. Enrollment in Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by the District;
3. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic athletic program (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade);
4. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade); or
5. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the student being unable to graduate (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade).

A student requiring adapted physical education must receive that service in accordance with ~~the student's~~ his or her Individualized Educational Program/Plan (IEP).

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses ~~when in~~ either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, ~~and~~ (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) ~~the student's~~ parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP ~~and~~, (b) is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.

**Volunteer service credit.** A student participating in the District's Volunteer Service Credit Program, if any, may earn credit toward graduation for the performance of community service. The amount of credit given for program participation shall not exceed that given for completion of one semester of language arts, math, science, or social studies.

**Re-Entering Students**

Individuals younger than 21 years of age may re-enter high school to acquire a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate, subject to the limitations in Board policy 7:50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools. Re-entering students may obtain credit through the successful completion of the following (not all of these may be available at any one time):

1. District courses
2. Non-District experiences described in this policy
3. Classes in a program established under Section 10-22.20 of the School Code, in accordance with the standards established by the Illinois Community College Board
4. Proficiency testing, correspondence courses, life experiences, and other nonformal educational endeavors
5. Military service, provided the individual making the request has a recommendation from the U.S. Commission of Accreditation of Service Experiences

The provisions in the section **Credit for Non-District Experiences**, above, apply to the receipt of credit for any non-District course.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.44, 5/2-3.108, 5/2-3.115, 5/2-3.142, 5/10-22.43a, 5/27-6, 5/27-22.3, and 5/27-22.05.  
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420(p), 1.440(f), and 1.470(c).

CROSS REF.: 6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:315 (High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Activity)

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