

Instruction

Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions

Correspondence Courses

A student enrolled in a correspondence course may receive high school credit for work completed, provided:

1. The course is not offered in-District;
2. The course is given by an institution accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools;
3. The student is a fourth or fifth year senior;
4. The student assumes responsibility for all fees; and
5. The Building Principal approves the course in advance.

A maximum of 1 unit of credit may be counted toward the requirements for a student's high school graduation. Only one course (.5 credits) can be taken each of the final semesters of the student's senior year.

Distance Learning Courses, Including Virtual or Online Courses

A student enrolled in a distance learning course, including a 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;
3. The student assumes responsibility for all fees (including tuition and textbooks); and
4. The Building Principal approves the course 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 extra-curricular 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 School Board may grant a certificate of attendance to exchange students.

District students will receive high school credit for 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.

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 for Seniors Only

A student who successfully completes community college courses may receive high school credit, provided:

1. The student is 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 Enrollment

Dual enrollment with Southwestern Illinois College will be permitted for classes during the school day only if graduation requirements have been met or if the student is a participant in the Running Start Program.

Dual Credit Courses

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

Foreign Language Courses

A student will receive high school credit by studying foreign language in an approved ethnic school program, provided such program meets the minimum standards established by the 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.

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.

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

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.

1. Enrollment in a marching band program for credit;
2. 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
3. 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); or
4. Enrollment in 1½ hours of daily chorus.

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

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses when:

1. He or she is in grades 9-12, and his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and the student's parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination;
2. He or she has an IEP and is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.44, 5/2-3.108, 5/2-3.115, 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(j), and 4.450(c).

CROSS REF.: 6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Activity)

ADOPTED: February 10, 2014