

## Instruction

### **High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students**

#### Credit for Non-District Experiences

A student may receive high school credit for successfully completing any of the listed courses or experiences even when it is not offered in or sponsored by the District:

1. Distance learning course, including a correspondence, virtual, or online course if:
  - a. The course is not currently being offered by the high school.
  - b. The course is currently being offered as an elective course by the high school with the approval of the principal or superintendent.
  - c. The course is being taken for credit recovery with either the approval of the principal or superintendent.
2. Summer school courses if:
  - a. The course is not currently being offered by the high school.
  - b. The course is currently being offered as an elective course by the high school with the approval of the principal or superintendent.
  - c. The course is being taken for credit recovery with either the approval of the principal or superintendent.
3. College courses offering dual credit courses at both the college and high school level if:
  - a. The course must be pre-approved by the principal or superintendent
  - b. It is the student's responsibility to be enrolled in the college and register for the dual credit course.
4. Credits earned at a vocational/technical school or safe school if:
  - a. The course must be pre-approved by the principal or superintendent
  - b. The student's parent/guardian requests and approves the substitution in writing on forms provided by the District.

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.** 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. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic athletic program (student must be in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade)
2. Enrollment in academic class that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning (student must be in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

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 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

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

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

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (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), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Activity)

ADOPTED: April 18, 2016