

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:310 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
2. Courses in an accredited foreign exchange program
3. Summer school or community college courses
4. College or high school courses offering dual credit courses at both the college and high school level [PRESSPlus1](#)
5. Foreign language courses taken in an ethnic school program approved by the Illinois State Board of Education
6. Work-related training at manufacturing facilities or agencies in a Youth Apprenticeship Vocational Education Tech Prep Program (Tech Prep)
7. Credit earned in a Vocational Academy
8. Successful completion of an 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 Principal or designee.

The student must seek approval in advance 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 Required Courses

Vocational or technical education; registered apprenticeship program. [PRESSPlus2](#) 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 or a registered apprenticeship program if:

1. The 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 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 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 or extracurricular athletic program; [PRESSPlus3](#)
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 who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses pursuant to 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.

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 American Council on Education

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

LEGAL REF.:

110 ILCS 27/, Dual Credit Quality Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.425(e) and (f), 1.440(f), and 1.470(c). 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.425(e) and (f), 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 Education)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.62, renumbered and amended by P.A. 100-792, eff. 1-1-19, mandates that qualified dual enrollment students are allowed to enroll in and earn an unlimited amount of academic credits from dual credit courses taught by an Illinois Instructor.

The Dual Credit Quality Act, 110 ILCS 27/, amended by P.A. 100-1049, requires community college districts to enter into a dual credit partnership agreement with any school districts within their jurisdiction that request one. If the district and community college cannot agree within 180 days of a district's initial request to enter into a partnership agreement, the two parties must use the model partnership agreement located at 110 ILCS 27/19, added by P.A. 100-1049, eff. 1-1-19. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.173, added by P.A. 100-992, established a registered apprenticeship program. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 3. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(2), added at 42 Ill. Reg. 11542, defines *interscholastic* and *extracurricular athletic programs* as "those programs that are sponsored by the school district as defined by school district policy." Boards have no authority to honor parental excuses based upon students' participation in athletic training, activities or competition conducted outside the auspices of the school district. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(6), added at Ill. Reg. 11543. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**