

Instruction

High School Credit for Proficiency

Proficiency Credits

Subject to the limitations in this policy and State law, the Superintendent is authorized to establish and approve a program for granting credit for proficiency with the goal of allowing a student who would not benefit from a course because the student is proficient in the subject area to receive credit without having to take the course. A student who demonstrates competency under this program will receive course credit for the applicable course and be excused from any requirement to take the course as a graduation prerequisite. No letter grade will be given for purposes of the student's cumulative grade point average. The Superintendent or designee shall notify students of the availability of and requirements for receiving proficiency credit.

Proficiency credit will be offered in the following subject areas:

Foreign language - A student is eligible to receive one year of foreign language credit if the student has graduated from an accredited elementary school and can demonstrate proficiency, according to this District's academic criteria, in a language other than English. A student who demonstrates proficiency in American Sign Language is deemed proficient in a foreign language and will receive one year of foreign language credit. A student who studied a foreign language in an approved ethnic school program is eligible to receive appropriate credit according to the level of proficiency reached; the student may be required to take a proficiency examination.

Other proficiency testing - The program for granting credit for proficiency may allow, as the Superintendent deems appropriate, course credit to be awarded on the basis of a local examination to a student who has achieved the necessary proficiency through independent study or work taken in or through another institution. Proficiency testing may also be used to determine eligible credit for other subjects whenever students enter from non-graded schools, non-recognized or non-accredited schools, or were in a home-schooling program.

Course Credit for High School Diploma

The Superintendent or designee may investigate, coordinate, and implement a program and schedules for students in grades 7 and 8 to enroll in a course required for a high school diploma.

Students in grades 7 and 8 may enroll in a course required for a high school diploma when: (1) the course is offered by the high school that the elementary student would attend, (2) the student participates in the course at the location of the high school, or an on-line/virtual high school pre-approved by the high school principal and superintendent, and (3) the student's enrollment in the course would not prevent a high school student from being able to enroll.

Students in grades 7 and 8 may enroll in a course required for a high school diploma where they attend school when: (1) the course is taught by a high school teacher who teaches in a high school of the district where the student will attend high school, and (2) no high school students are enrolled in the course.

A student that successfully completes a course required for a high school diploma while in grades 7 and 8 shall receive such academic credit from the Board. That academic credit shall satisfy the

requirements of Section 27-22 of The School Code for purposes of receiving a high school diploma, unless evidence about the course's rigor and content show that the course did not address the relevant Illinois learning standard at the level appropriate for the high school grade during which the course is usually taken. The student's grade in the course shall also be included in the student's grade point average in accordance with Board policy.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.10, 5/10-2243, 5/10-22.43a, 5/27-12.1, 5/27-22, 5/27-22.10, 5/27-24.3, and 5/27-24.4.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.460.

CROSS REF.: 6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 6:280 (Grading and Promotion); 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:310 (Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions), 7:40 (Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students)

ADOPTED: November 6, 2001

AMENDED: December 13, 2010