

## **Policy: IHCDA**

### **POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS**

The Board supports and encourages District students who wish to enroll in post-secondary coursework prior to high school graduation subject to the following parameters:

#### **Eligible Institutions**

Students may take courses at eligible post-secondary institutions within the State of Maine, which include the University of Maine System, the Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy.

Students may be allowed to take courses at private colleges or other institutions.

Any such requests shall be considered on a case-by-case basis to the extent that funds are available.

#### **Student Eligibility Requirements**

A student may take no more than one course per semester and two courses per academic year.

A student must meet the following criteria prior to enrolling in a post-secondary course:

- A. Have a minimum of a B average in his or her courses overall;
- B. Meet the course admission standards of the eligible institution;
- C. Provide written permission from a parent or legal guardian to take the course; and
- D. Obtain approval from the Building Principal or his or her designee.

#### **Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements**

A student enrolled in grade 11 or 12 who does not meet the B average in his or her courses overall is eligible to take a post-secondary course provided that he or she:

- A. Has been assessed and received a recommendation to take the course from the school administration; and
- B. Has been approved for participant in the course by the post-secondary institution.

#### **Awarding of Credits**

The post-secondary institution shall grant full credit to any student who successfully completes a course.

High school graduation credit for a course taken under this policy shall be awarded as follows:

- A. The course must meet for a minimum of one term at the post-secondary institution.
- B. The student must earn a passing grade in the course.
- C. Attendance must satisfy the post secondary institutions requirements.
- D. If the above criteria are met, the student shall receive one credit for each approved course.

### **Financial Assistance**

- A. The Maine Department of Education shall pay applicable tuition costs for any student enrolled in a course under this policy if the eligible institution requires tuition payment.
- B. The student or his or her parent or legal guardian is responsible for paying for all textbooks, course fees and transportation costs.
- C. If the student qualifies for free or reduced lunch, the District shall pay the cost of textbooks, course fees, and transportation.

### **District Reporting Requirements**

The Superintendent or his or her designee shall ensure that information concerning post-secondary enrollment options is made available to parents and students.

The Superintendent shall provide an annual report to the School Board regarding the number of students taking courses at post-secondary institutions, the courses taken and the performance of the students participating.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA 4771 et seq.

Adopted: August 24, 2004