

## POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

The intent of this policy is to establish the requirements for student enrollment in post-secondary courses taken before high school graduation.

### Eligible Institutions

Students may take courses at eligible post-secondary institutions within Maine, which include, but not limited to the University of Maine System, the Vocational Technical College System and Maine Maritime Academy.

Students may take courses offered through a Distance Learning Network or the Internet if such participation is approved by the post-secondary institutions.

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:

NOTE: The following are statutory requirements.

- A. Have a minimum of a "B" (or 3.0 or proficient) average in his/her courses overall;
- B. Meet the course admission standards of the eligible institution;
- C. Provide written evidence of parent/guardian approval for taking the course; and
- D. Obtain approval from the principal and guidance counselor. The student must meet with his/her guidance counselor to develop a plan describing how the course will help the student meet graduation requirements in order to obtain approval.

### Exceptions to Eligibility Requirements

A student enrolled in grade 11 or 12 who does not meet the "B" (or 3.0 or proficient) average in his/her courses overall is eligible to take a post-secondary course provided that he/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 eligible institution.

### **Awarding of Credits**

The eligible institution shall grant full credit to any student who successfully completes a course.

- A. The course must meet for a minimum of one semester and the course must meet any applicable Learning Results standards.
- B. The student must earn a passing grade in the course.
- C. Attendance must satisfy the instructor's requirements.
- D. If the above criteria are met, the student shall receive preapproved high school credit.

### **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 and his/her parent/guardian are responsible for paying for all textbooks, course fees and transportation costs.

### **RSU Reporting Requirements**

The Superintendent shall make parents and students aware of enrollment options through handbooks or other appropriate means.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA § 4771 et seq.

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