

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. College or high school courses offering dual credit at both the college and high school level

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 Required Courses

Registered Apprenticeship Program. The Superintendent or designee will ensure that the District complies with State law requirements for registered apprenticeship programs. The opportunities and requirements for registered apprenticeship programs contained in this policy will be posted on the District's website, and parents/guardians and students will also be notified of such opportunities in the appropriate school handbook(s).

A student in grades 9-12 who is 16 years or older may satisfy one or more high school courses (including physical education) or graduation requirements by successfully completing a registered apprenticeship program if:

1. The registered apprenticeship program meets all criteria contained in State law;
2. The registered apprenticeship program is listed by the District, or the student identifies a registered (but not listed) apprenticeship program with a business or organization if one is not offered in the District;
3. The student enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program has the opportunity to earn post-secondary credit toward a certificate or degrees, as applicable;
4. The student's parent/guardian requests and approves the substitution(s) in writing on forms provided by the District and on its website;
5. The Building Principal approves the substitution(s); and
6. All non-academic requirements mandated by the School Code for high school graduation that would otherwise prohibit or prevent the student from participating in the registered apprenticeship program are waived.

Substitutions for physical education. A student in grades 11-12, 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 a marching band program for credit;
2. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program;
3. Students may receive credit from courses offered by accredited secondary and post-secondary institutions which require student attendance. Earning credits in this manner, not to exceed two, shall require prior approval from the principal. External credits needed to complete graduation requirements must be earned during or prior to the last semester of attendance for the student to participate in commencement exercises. Correspondence course credits will not be accepted.

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 6:310

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.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.44, 5/2-3.108, 5/2-3.115, 5/2-3.142, 5/2-3.175, 5/10-22.43a, 5/27-6, 5/27-22.3, and 5/27-22.05.

110 ILCS 27/, Dual Credit Quality Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.425(e), 1.440(f), 1.470(c), and Part 255.

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)

Adopted: January 20, 2021

Dwight Schools Dist. 230 & 232
