CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION ADMISSIONS POLICY

OCTOBER, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Massachusetts state regulations (603 CMR 4.00) require all state-funded career/vocational technical education (CVTE) schools and CVTE programs at public high schools to develop and implement admissions policies that comply with state and federal law, as well as relevant guidelines issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the U.S. Department of Education. The Dighton-Rehoboth School Committee approved this policy on: November 23, 2021

ADMISSIONS

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School's admission policy is on file at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. All incoming 9th grade students are eligible and accepted into the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Career and Technical Education exploratory program.

II. EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School admits students and makes available to them its programs, privileges, and courses of study without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.

If a student's primary home language is not English, Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School will provide them with an application form in their home language. Please contact our District Office at (508)252-5000 if you have questions or need help filling out the application form.

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School is committed to providing educational opportunities to students experiencing homelessness. Please contact Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School's liaison Kristen Donahue, kdonahue@drregional.org, or (508)252-5000 with any questions.

Students with disabilities may voluntarily identify themselves to Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School to request reasonable accommodations during the admission and/or placement process.

Neither a student's disability nor the primary language of their home will have any effect on their admission to Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School.

Consistent with Massachusetts <u>regulations</u>, Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School has created a plan with "deliberate, specific strategies to promote equal educational opportunities and attract, enroll, and retain a student population that, when compared to students in similar grades in sending districts, has a comparable academic and demographic profile."

III. ELIGIBILITY

Any current rising 9th grade student who is a resident of Dighton or Rehoboth may participate in the Career and Technical Education program at Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School. Students may only be admitted to Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School if they have been promoted to the grade they are seeking to enter, so students should be aware that their admission is conditional—if they are not ultimately promoted to enter the grade they have applied for, their admission will be rescinded. Resident students who meet the minimum requirements for admission shall be admitted prior to acceptance of any non-resident students seeking the same program.

NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS:

Students who are non-residents of the Dighton-Rehoboth School District are eligible to apply for admission to the Career and Technical Education program at Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School. Please be aware that residents of the Dighton-Rehoboth School District who meet the minimum admission requirements will be admitted before any non-residents seeking the same program. Students and families can find information on the Chapter 74 Nonresident Student Tuition Program online. Resident students who meet the minimum requirements for admission shall be admitted prior to acceptance of any non-resident students seeking the same program.

HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS:

Homeschooled applicants may apply to attend Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School's Career and Technical Education program full-time and will be subject to the same admissions/placement standards as other applicants.

The Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School Committee recognizes and respects the right of parents or guardians to educate their child at home. The School Committee appreciates personal and cultural uniqueness of each family and desires to ensure that the process by which school officials approve and review home education programs is both lawful and equitable. Therefore, the School Committee establishes this home education policy. This policy which provides the necessary proposal procedures and mandatory components can be requested.

TRANSFER STUDENTS:

Students already participating in Chapter 74 programs at another school may apply for admission to Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School and will be subject to the same admissions standards as other applicants. Students will be accepted into the same Chapter 74 program if space allows. Any student transferring into the district during the 9th grade is eligible to participate in the exploratory program during Semester 1. Any 9th grade student transferring into the district after Semester 1 will participate in a condensed exploratory program. The student will have the opportunity to enroll in any program with openings.

SCHOOL CHOICE:

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School does participate in the inter-district school choice program. The inter-district school choice program, M.G.L. c. 76, § 12B, allows parents/guardians to send their children to schools in communities other than the city or town in which they reside.

Students applying to Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School under the school choice program should contact our Superintendent's office at (508)252-5000 or drregional.org with any questions. More information on school choice can be found on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website.

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School is a Regional school located in Dighton, Massachusetts.

The Superintendent is:

Dr. Anthony Azar aazar@drregional.org (508)252-5000

The Principal is:

Dr. John Gould jqould@drregional.org (508)252-5025 ext. 5601

The Director of Career and Technical Education program is:

Diane Rose <u>dirose@drregional.org</u> (508)252-5030 ext. 5622

It is the responsibility of Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School's Superintendent to supervise the administration of the policies and procedures used to admit and enroll students, consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

V. ADMISSIONS COMMUNICATION POLICIES

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School maintains a calendar of events on its website drregional.org where it provides information on the admissions process, as well as other information about its programs. Students and their families can request hard copies of the calendar by calling or emailing the Main Office Secretary at (508) 252-5025 or Ilstahowiak@drregional.org.

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School offers tours of its facilities to interested applicants. To request a tour, please call or email our Guidance Office. If the agreed-upon time slot for a tour occurs during the applicant's school day, the Guidance Office will provide confirmation to the applicant's current school that the applicant attended a tour during this time. Such tours may **not** be counted as unexcused absences by sending districts.

VI. RECRUITMENT PROCESS

The Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Career & Technical Education Director disseminates information about the programs through a variety of methods.

- 1. Visitations and informational meetings from high school students, staff, and administration to 8th grade students in the Dighton and Rehoboth Middle Schools beginning in October.
- 2. Slide presentations and informational brochures and emails will be circulated in both middle schools. The information will include academics, Career & Technical education programs, electives, sports, clubs, activities and special education resources.
- 3. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may schedule individual tours at a mutually convenient time.
- 4. Invites to 8th grade students to attend open house and other high school events.

VII. PROCESS FOR FALL ADMISSION TO THE NINTH GRADE EXPLORATORY PROGRAM

Any Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District 8th grade student interested in participating in the Career and Technical program offered at the high school will be accepted into the 9th grade exploratory program. Students will meet with their 8th grade guidance counselor in the spring to create a schedule for 9th grade at the high school. The student's guidance counselor will review all opportunities available at the high school including Career and Technical Education.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students already enrolled in a Chapter 74 state-approved program in another school may apply for admission to Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Career and Technical program. Please contact the Guidance Office at (508) 252-5025 with any questions or to request admission.

VIII. SELECTION PROCESS

Any incoming 9th grade student interested in Career and Technical Education at Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School is eligible to participate in the 9th grade Exploratory Program.

IX. EXPLORATORY PROGRAM

Because Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School offers five or more Chapter 74 state-approved programs, Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School provides a half year exploratory program for 9th grade students, which is based on the applicable Vocational Technical Education and Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. Student will complete 120 hours rotating through all seven Chapter 74 programs offered at the high school. The rotation includes the following Chapter 74 programs:

Advanced Manufacturing Technology (Re-open 2022/23)

Automotive Technology

Carpentry

Drafting and Design

Early Childhood and Care

Marketing

Radio, Television and Broadcasting

Students are evaluated and graded by each program teacher during the rotation. A rubric has been established and grades are given in the following areas: Safety, Workmanship, Professionalism, Employability, and Career Awareness Activity.

Grading Rubric Exploratory rubric.pdf

X. PROGRAM-SPECIFIC ADMISSION

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School uses the following system for students to identify and enroll in their Chapter 74 technical program:

Students each receive a Course Selection Form CTE Exploratory Final Choice Selection Form - Google Forms.html. The form is emailed to school email accounts and a deadline for submittal is given. Once the forms have been received, the student is placed in their first choice selection. Should a program receive more student choices than enrollment allows, students will be placed by overall exploratory grade ranking. Students who do not receive their first choice will be placed in their second or third choice and placed on a waiting list. A waiting list will be established with the top ranking student beginning the list.

Any 9th grade student opting out of the Career and Technical Education program, will finish out the year and return to a full academic schedule at the start of 10th grade. Students who opt out will be placed in

an under enrolled program.

XI. REVIEW AND APPEALS PROCESS

ADMISSION TO SPECIFIC PROGRAMS WITHIN DIGHTON-REHOBOTH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Students who have completed the 9th grade Exploratory Program Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School will need to select a specific program of study (also known as a "major" or "shop") during the end of the Exploratory program rotation.

If the student applies to a program and is waitlisted, the student may appeal their rejection to the Superintendent in the following ways:

By e-mail	By hard-copy mail or hand delivery
aazar@drregional.org	2700 Regional Road, Dighton MA 02764

XII. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School maintains records of all students who are waitlisted, as well as their score on placement criteria, to facilitate analysis of its admissions system and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School will provide this information to the Department upon request.

XII. CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- 8th grade students meet with middle school guidance counselor and include CTE 9th Grade Exploratory in their next year's schedule.
- Students rotate through each of the seven Chapter 74 Career & Technical Education programs offered at Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School. The 9th Grade Exploratory program is required to complete 120 hours of career exploration.
- Towards the end of Semester 1, students will complete a Google form indicating their first three choices for placement.
- Students will be placed in their first choice unless a program becomes over enrolled. In this case
 any student choosing an over enrolled program will be ranked by grades. Any student who is not
 placed in their first choice will be placed on a waitlist. The waitlist will be held by the CTE Director,
 who will update the list accordingly. Students who are not immediately accepted into their first
 choice will be placed in their second or third choice.
- Once students have been placed, the programs required hours for earning a Certificate of Competency begins.
- Each Chapter 74 program is required to fulfill a 900 hour minimum requirement with the exception of Automotive Technology and Early Childhood Education which require additional hours.

