

# **PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION**

## **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Lawton Public Schools will provide course credit and/or promotion to students in grades Kindergarten (K) through twelve (12) who demonstrate proficiency in a specified set of competencies through an evaluation and /or assessment in lieu of successful completion of Carnegie units in a particular course.

## **Proficiency Based Promotion**

### **A. General Provisions.**

Lawton Public schools will evaluate appropriate placement of students and/or provide course credit to students who can demonstrate proficiency in sets of competencies in the areas of curriculum required by 70 O.S. § 11-103.6. Lawton Public Schools shall set forth the district's use of proficiency assessments for each of the following purposes:

#### **1. Credit by examination.**

Proficiency assessments for purposes of providing "credit by examination" refer to assessments administered for the purpose of providing course credit for a student who demonstrates mastery of a set of competencies through the examination in lieu of completion of Carnegie units ("proficiency based promotion").

#### **2. Requests for proficiency assessments for credit by examination.**

The procedure for requesting proficiency assessments for the purpose of obtaining course credit by examination and provisions are as follows.

- a. The district shall provide all students legally enrolled in the school district with at least two opportunities per school year to obtain course credit through examination in each required curriculum area. School district policies shall permit a request for an assessment for this purpose to be initiated by a student or the student's teacher, parent, or legal guardian.
- b. Identification as a "Gifted and Talented" student in accordance with the provisions of 70 O.S. § 1210.301 et seq. and accompanying regulations shall not be used as a prerequisite for requesting an assessment for the purpose of obtaining credit by examination.
- c. Enrollment in a course or completion of a course shall not be used as a prerequisite for requesting an assessment for the purpose of obtaining credit by examination.
- d. Students who do not successfully demonstrate proficiency by evaluation or assessment pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be allowed to attempt the assessment again during the next available proficiency evaluation period.

## **PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION (cont.)**

### **3. Curriculum areas eligible for course credit by examination.**

The area of curriculum for which evaluation of proficiency may be requested are as follows.

- a. The areas of required curriculum in which opportunities for credit by examination will be offered shall include:
  - i. Social Studies, history, or citizenship skills;
  - ii. Language arts or English;
  - iii. Visual arts, fine arts, performing arts, or speech/communication;
  - iv. Non-English languages;
  - v. Mathematics; and
  - vi. Science
- b. Written criteria for demonstrating mastery in each required curriculum area shall be made available to a student or the student's parent or legal guardian upon request. Demonstration of proficiency in all laboratory science courses shall include a requirement of demonstration of the student's ability to perform relevant laboratory techniques.

## **B. Proficiency assessment tools – requirements.**

The district shall clearly identify the assessment tools it will use to provide course credit by examination. The assessment tools shall comply with all of the following requirements:

### **1. Course credit through examination.**

The district shall identify all assessments used to determine proficiency for the purpose of obtaining credit through examination for required courses. Students may take assessments for this purpose before, during, or after enrollment in the course. Assessments of proficiency for this purpose shall require demonstration of proficiency appropriate to the curriculum area and shall meet all of the following requirements:

#### **a. Courses tested under the Oklahoma School Testing Program.**

Credit by examination for courses that are tested under the Oklahoma School Testing Program ("OSTP") at 70 O.S. § 1210.508 shall require the student to obtain a proficient score on an assessment tool identified by the district in accordance with Lawton Public Schools policies.

- i. Credit by examination for secondary-level courses that are used to meet high school graduation requirements and are tested under the Oklahoma School Testing Program at 70 O.S. § 1210.508 shall require a score of at least "Proficient" or above in the criterion-referenced test that corresponds to the required course.

## **PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION (cont.)**

- ii. Credit by examination in lieu of completion of the required Carnegie units in secondary coursework for any course in a subject area identified in 70 O.S. § 1210.523 that requires an end-of-instruction examination shall require the student to obtain a score of “Proficient” or above on the end-of-instruction examination for the course administered pursuant to the provisions of 70 O.S. § 1210.508 and 1210.523.
  - iii. Credit by examination for any elementary or middle level course shall require the student to obtain a score of “Proficient” or above on the criterion-referenced test that corresponds to the course for which the student seeks credit.
- b. **Courses not tested under the Oklahoma School Testing Program.**  
Credit by examination for courses not tested under the Oklahoma School Testing Program at 70 O.S. § 1210.508 shall require the student to obtain a proficient score on an assessment tool identified by the district in accordance with Lawton Public School policies and approved by the board of education.
- i. The district shall ensure that each assessment tool identified for use to provide credit through examination pursuant to the provisions of the subparagraph meets all of the following requirement:
    - 1) The demonstration of proficiency that is appropriate to the subject area; and
    - 2) The assessment tool for the curriculum area is aligned to the district’s curriculum standards and accurately measures the student’s demonstration of the sets of competencies in the current academic method and process standards most recently adopted by the State Board of Education.
  - ii. Examples of types of appropriate assessment tools in curriculum areas not tested under the provision of the OSTP may include, but shall not be limited to:
    - 1) A portfolio of student work;
    - 2) A criterion referenced assessment;
    - 3) A student thesis;
    - 4) A student project;
    - 5) A student performance or recital.

## **PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION (cont.)**

### **2. Students with disabilities.**

Every evaluation or assessment tool administered to students in accordance with the provisions of this section shall include necessary accommodations set forth in a student's IEP or Section 504 plan, if any. Accommodations to a proficiency assessment may be approved by the district for students with disabilities. The appropriateness of such accommodations shall be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.

### **C. Results of proficiency assessments.**

The district shall consider the results of assessments given in accordance with the provisions of this section and shall ensure compliance with all of the following requirements:

#### **1. Unsuccessful demonstration of proficiency.**

Failure to demonstrate proficiency in an assessment provided in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall not be noted on the student's transcript.

#### **2. Successful demonstration of proficiency.**

Decisions regarding promotion of students who demonstrate proficiency in a required curriculum area in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be determined in accordance with district policies and shall meet all of the following requirements:

- a. The school shall confer with parents in making decisions regarding student placement or promotion. Such factors as social, emotional and intellectual needs of the student should be considered.
- b. If the parent or guardian requests promotion/acceleration contrary to the recommendation of school personnel, the parent or guardian shall sign a written statement which shall be included in the permanent record of the student.
- c. If a student is being assessed in a set of competencies that is part of a curriculum sequence, the student may demonstrate proficiency in any sequence recommended by the district.
- d. Options for accommodating a student's needs for advancement after a student has demonstrated proficiency may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - i. Individualized instruction
  - ii. Correspondence courses
  - iii. Independent study
  - iv. Concurrent enrollment
  - v. Cross-grade grouping
  - vi. Cluster grouping
  - vii. Grade/course skipping
  - viii. Individualized education programs
  - ix. Supplemental online courses

**PROFICIENCY BASED PROMOTION (cont.)**

**D. Appropriate notation for credit in core required curriculum area(s) completed through examination.**

All course credits earned through examination by elementary, middle level, or high school level students in required curriculum areas shall be appropriately notated on the student's transcript and/or student record. Completion may be recorded with a letter grade or pass notations. Credits earned by a student through examination in accordance with the provisions of 210:35-27-2 shall be transferable to or from any other school districts within the State of Oklahoma in which the student was enrolled, is currently enrolled, or may be enrolled. Credit for units of secondary coursework in curriculum areas required for graduation by 70 O.S. § 11-103.6 shall count toward meeting the requirements for the high school diploma.