

ALTERNATIVE CREDIT OPTIONS

Credit may be earned through alternative methods outside of regular classroom-based instruction offered by the district schools.

Alternative Methods

- Competency achievement/assessment in lieu of enrollment
- Interdisciplinary credit
- Independent Studies
- Satisfactory completion of course requirements at another public school district, an approved private school or a home-schooling experience
- Transfer of credits earned by students before enrolling in the district, such as students moving into New Hampshire from another state or country
- Extended learning opportunities under the provisions of Policy IHBH
- Online/virtual learning opportunities under the provisions of Policy IMBA
- College credit/dual credit
- Middle school acceleration to the extent that the course work exceeds the requirements for seventh or eighth grade, is consistent with the related high school course(s), and the student achieves satisfactory standards of performance.
- If a student demonstrates knowledge and abilities on a placement pre-test developed by the school district for a particular course, the student shall not receive credit for the course, but shall be allowed to take a more advanced level of the subject or an elective.

Planning

When appropriate, the student will submit a plan to achieve competency that meets or exceeds the rigorous academic standards required by the school for students enrolled in a credit course offered by the school. The plan must include clearly defined competencies, evidence that will indicate the mastery of those competencies, as well as a timeline for completion.

An appropriately certified, Hopkinton School District faculty member will provide the principal with an evaluation of the plan including strengths and deficiencies. If necessary, the student will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit the plan for review.

If approved by the Director of Guidance and Principal, the student will have the appropriate amount of time (one semester/full year) to complete the plan.

An appropriately certified, Hopkinton School District faculty member will assess the evidence of student learning at least three times to determine mastery of the competencies associated with the alternate credit experience. Feedback will be provided to the student and building principal.

The awarding of credits to be applied toward high school graduation will be determined by the high school principal.

Statewide Assessments

Students earning credit via alternative methods will participate in all assessments required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program.

Funding

The student and school administration will develop a funding plan.

Additional regulations and procedures

The Board directs the Superintendent to establish the regulations and procedures necessary to implement this policy.

Legal Reference:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(a)(6, 12, 14), Policy Development

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.26, Kindergarten - Grade 8 School Curriculum

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27(c), High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements, and Co-Curricular Program

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27(d), High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements, and Co-curricular Program

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