



CREDIT FOR LEARNING

POLICY:	620
ADOPTED:	07/31/98
REVISED:	06/22/20

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to recognize student achievement which occurs in Post-Secondary Enrollment Options and other advanced enrichment programs, and in out-of-school experiences such as community organizations, work-based learning, and other educational activities and opportunities.

II. General Statement of Policy

The policy of the school district is to develop and provide processes and procedures by which students may meet a graduation requirement for a content standard, whether the school district offers the content standard in its curriculum or the student accomplishes the work in another learning environment. The school district will provide a process for transfer of standards completed in another Minnesota school district, recognition of work completed in other schools and post-secondary institutions, and credit for standards achieved in extracurricular activities, activities outside the school, previous learning, and community and work experiences.

III. Definitions

- A. “Accredited school” means a school that is accredited by an accrediting agency, recognized according to Minn. Stat. § 123B.445 or recognized by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).
- B. “Blended learning” is a form of digital learning that occurs when a student learns part time in a supervised physical setting and part time through digital delivery of instruction, or a student learns in a supervised physical setting where technology is used as a primary method to deliver instruction.
- C. “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of MDE.
- D. “Digital learning” is learning facilitated by technology that offers students an element of control over the time, place, path, or pace of their learning and includes blended and online learning.
- E. “Eligible institution” means a Minnesota public post-secondary institution, a private, nonprofit two-year trade and technical school granting associate degrees, an opportunities industrialization center accredited by an accreditor

recognized by the United States Department of Education, or a private, residential, two-year or four-year, liberal arts, degree-granting college or university located in Minnesota.

- F. “Nonpublic school” is a private school or home school in which a child is provided instruction in compliance with the Minnesota compulsory attendance laws.
- G. “Online learning” is a form of digital learning delivered by an approved online learning provider.
- H. “Online learning provider” is a school district, an intermediate school district, an organization of two or more school districts operating under a joint powers agreement, or a charter school located in Minnesota that provides online learning to students and is approved by MDE to provide online learning courses.

IV. Transfer of Credit from Other Schools

- A. Transfer of Academic Requirements from Other Minnesota Public Secondary Schools
 - 1. The school district will accept and transfer secondary credits and grades awarded to a student from another Minnesota public secondary school upon presentation of a certified transcript from the transferring public secondary school evidencing the course taken and the grade and credit awarded.
 - 2. Credits and grades awarded from another Minnesota public secondary school may be used to compute honor roll and/or class rank.
 - 3. Students who transfer to Simley High School may apply for inclusion in the Honors class rank. Honors class rank is officially calculated at the end of each academic school year for grades 9-11. For seniors, final Honors class rank is determined at the end of the second trimester.
- B. Transfer of Academic Requirement from Other Schools
 - 1. The school district will accept secondary credits and grades awarded to a student for courses successfully completed at a public school outside of Minnesota or an accredited nonpublic school upon presentation of a certified transcript from the transferring public school in another state or nonpublic school evidencing the course taken and the grade and credit awarded.

- a. When a determination is made that the content of the course aligns directly with school district graduation requirements, the student will be awarded commensurate credits and grades.
 - b. Commensurate credits and grades awarded from an accredited nonpublic school or public school in another state may be issued to compute honor roll and/or class rank.
 - c. Students who transfer to Simley High School may apply for inclusion in the Honors class rank. Honors class rank is officially calculated at the end of each academic school year for grades 9-11. For seniors, final Honors class rank is determined at the end of the second trimester.
 - d. In the event the content of a course taken at an accredited nonpublic school or public school in another state does not fully align with the content of the school district's high school graduation requirements but is comparable to elective credits offered by the school district for graduation, the student may be provided elective credit applied toward graduation requirements.
2. Students transferring from a non-accredited, nonpublic school shall receive credit from the school district upon presentation of a transcript or other documentation evidencing the course taken and grade and credit awarded.
- a. District 199 will attempt to determine the content of courses, programs and other educational experiences to credit the student as fully as possible for previous learning. This determination may include asking the student or the sending institution to verify the content of completed courses and programs when it is not clear from the transcript or other documentation.

V. Post-Secondary Enrollment Credit

- A. A student who satisfactorily completes a post-secondary enrollment option course or program or on-line learning course or program under Minn. Stat. § 124D.09, that has been approved as meeting the necessary requirements, is not required to complete other standards adopted by the school district corresponding to that specific rigorous course of study.
- B. Secondary credits granted to a student through a post-secondary enrollment options course or program or on-line learning course or program that meets or

exceeds a graduation standard or requirement shall be counted toward the graduation and credit requirements of a student completing the Minnesota Academic Standards.

- C. A list of the courses or programs meeting the necessary requirements may be obtained from the school district.

VI. Credit from Online Learning Courses

- A. Secondary credits granted to a student through an online learning course or program that meets or exceeds graduation standard or requirement shall be counted toward the graduation and credit requirements of a student completing the Minnesota Academic Standards.
- B. Course credit will be considered only upon official documentation from the online learning provider evidencing the course taken and the grade and credit awarded to the student.
- C. When a student provides documentation from an accredited online learning provider, the course credit and course grade shall be recorded and counted toward graduation credit requirements for all courses or programs that meet or exceed the school district's graduation requirements in the same manner as credits awarded for students transferring from another Minnesota public school as set forth in Section IV.A. above.

VII. Awarding of Credit

The building principal will be responsible for carrying out the process to award credits and grades pursuant to this policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.14 (Advanced Academic Credit)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.445 (Nonpublic Education Council)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.03, Subd. 9 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Act)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.095 (Online Learning Option)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for

Language Arts)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma) (repealed Minn. L. 2013, Ch. 116, Art. 2, § 22)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1200-3501.1210 (Academic Standards for English Language Development)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)

Cross References:

Policy 104 - School District Mission Statement

Policy 601 - School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals

Policy 613 - Graduation Requirements

Policy 616 - School District System Accountability

Policy 618 - Assessment of Student Achievement