

San Dieguito Union High School District

Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

AR 6146.11

Instruction

The District recognizes unique student needs for credit recovery and advancement. The guidelines are designed to offer flexibility to meet individual student needs, yet maintain the integrity of the diploma of graduation and transcript of record from SDUHSD. Students are only eligible to receive alternative credits for any course or other alternative means while enrolled in a SDUHSD high school.

Students engaged in any of the permitted activities designed to earn alternative credit are required to be enrolled in a SDUHSD course of study that meets the State and district requirements for minimum instructional minutes.

Definitions

To the extent needed to calculate credits, credit is granted to a student completing approximately 120 hours of class in one subject over the course of one year. For example, a total of 120 hours in one subject - a period meeting five times per week for 40 to 60 minutes of instructional time for 36 weeks each year or 18 weeks per semester, earns the student corresponding high school credit as reported on the transcript. While the content to be covered is planned within these time frames, a student may be granted one semester period of credit even though the student spends less than the aforementioned amount of time in completing the necessary work.

WORK EXPERIENCE EDUCATION

Enrolled students shall be granted up to 40 semester periods of credit for work experience education under one or more of the following combinations:

- a) By enrolling in the district *Exploratory Work Experience/Internship* education course, students may earn a maximum of 20 credits, within 4 semesters.
- b) By enrolling in the district *Work Experience Education* course, students may earn a maximum of 40 credits within 8 semesters.

INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSEWORK

Students seeking credit for graduation requirements completed through district independent study coursework must complete and submit a SDUHSD application. If approved by the Superintendent or designee, the student and parent/guardian must sign and complete all provisions of the Independent Study contract agreement to receive course credit.

CREDIT TOWARD DISTRICT PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Students in grades 10-12 who have participated in the CA Physical Fitness Test and received the State health content and who enroll in the district *PE Credit for Athletics* course by submitting the signed *PE Credit for Athletics* contract by the established deadline may earn up to four semesters (20 credits maximum) of Physical Education credit toward the high school graduation requirement by successful participation in regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletics carried on after regular school hours.

SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL ONLY - ALTERNATIVE PROFICIENCY CREDITS

Students may earn credit for scoring ‘Standard Met’ or better on state-mandated tests as part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Students will earn FIVE credits for each subject area test passed with a score of ‘Standard Met’ or better. Elective credit for the subject will be given on a pass/fail basis with Pass (P) grades only posted on transcript. Credits earned by demonstrating proficiency on the subject area tests will not be college preparatory credits. Students may not apply credits earned from state-mandated tests toward specific subject area classes that are mandatory requirements for graduation. Credit may only be earned from subject area tests taken during enrollment at Sunset High School. Credits earned while enrolled at Sunset High School from the demonstration of proficiency on the tests will be transferable to other district high schools. Additional tests added to the state-mandated tests program in the future will follow the same protocol for credit.

OFF CAMPUS COURSEWORK GUIDELINES

SDUHSD shall post concurrent off-campus coursework to the district transcript and grant credit toward high school graduation for coursework successfully completed at public or private institutions only in compliance with the following regulations:

- No student may begin to acquire high school credits until after the completion of 8th grade. Middle school students may not place off campus classes on the SDUHSD transcript.
- Students must be enrolled at a SDUHSD high school while attending an approved off-campus class in order to receive credit on a SDUHSD transcript.
- The course must be in a subject that is included in the district’s prescribed course of study and curricula based on course standards. Courses completed through other accredited institutions may be taken in person, online, or in a blended format as long as all other requirements for credit are met.
- For purposes of BP 6146.11 and this regulation, an accredited institution means one that is fully accredited by WASC or equivalent regional accrediting body, offers coursework leading to a high school diploma, and issues grades and credits on transcripts. Courses taken through providers that are accredited as Supplementary Education will not be accepted for credit. To receive college preparatory credit, the school must be fully accredited and/or course UC a-g approved.
- SDUHSD cannot recommend any specific outside program and SDUHSD staff will not proctor exams for outside institutions. All documentation from the outside institution and any costs associated with earning alternative credits toward graduation shall be the responsibility of the student and/or their family.

- No more than 30 credits from the combined areas of concurrent off-campus college courses, private instruction, adult or public school courses may be added onto the SDUHSD high school transcript.
- The student shall receive the same letter grade for the high school credit as is granted by the college, public or private institution. If a student is repeating a previously taken district course with an off-campus class, all courses taken and all earned grades will remain on the SDUHSD transcript. For GPA calculation, only SDUHSD courses will count as repeats of SDUHSD courses with the exception of identical standardized courses (e.g. AP, IB, adopted curricula) with the exact same course title and standard curricular content as shown by a course description and/or UC a-g list from the off campus institution.
- College courses and private or public school honors courses do not receive weighted grade credit on SDUHSD transcripts with the exception of College Board Advanced Placement or selected International Baccalaureate courses that are weighted by the University of California for the year taken. AP courses must be on the outside school's College Board AP Course Audit ledger for the year taken in order to be placed on the transcript. Students who take an off-campus AP course are not guaranteed a spot to register with SDUHSD for that AP exam and will be placed on a wait list.
- Off-campus math courses may not be used to accelerate from college prep to SDUHSD honors level math courses unless they are taken in combination with a SDUHSD Bridge course.
- Prior approval for all off-campus coursework is required and the process of requesting district approval is outlined in subsequent exhibit of this administrative regulation. A SDUHSD Off-Campus Course Permission Request Form (E6146.11) with a course description, evidence of school accreditation and/or the school's current UC a-g list attached must be signed and submitted by the parent/guardian/adult student and counselor in advance of a student enrolling in the off-campus course. The number of semester credits assigned to the course shall be determined before the student begins the coursework.
- Upon course completion, a student must submit an official transcript that includes the grade issued and credits earned for it to be posted. Once off campus credits are posted to a transcript, they may not be removed.

OFF CAMPUS COLLEGE COURSES

The district shall grant credit toward high school graduation for concurrent coursework successfully completed at a fully accredited postsecondary institution only as follows:

1. A single (3 or more unit) college course is equal to a 5 credit semester high school course on a SDUHSD transcript. Some college courses may be eligible for 10 credits on the SDUHSD transcript. The Superintendent or designee must pre-approve 10 credit college courses. Students concurrently enrolled in postsecondary classes may receive credit for these classes from both the high school and the postsecondary institution.
2. The student shall receive the same course title and letter grade for the high school credit as is granted by the college. College courses do not receive weighted grades on SDUHSD transcripts.

CONCURRENT OFF-CAMPUS PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

An enrolled student shall receive credit toward high school graduation for concurrent private instruction only under the following conditions:

1. The institution has been fully (not Supplementary) accredited by WASC or regional equivalent and/or has a UC approved a-g course list.
2. The class subject must be one that is included in the district's prescribed course of study.
3. The student shall receive the same course title, letter grade and credit for the high school credit as is granted by the private school.

LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH INSTRUCTION

The district shall grant elective credit for language other than English courses successfully completed in a private school only provided that all of the following conditions are met:

1. The courses are in languages designated in Education Code 51244 or State Board of Education Regulations.
2. The student is regularly enrolled or applying to the district in grades 9-12.
3. The school is fully (not Supplementary) accredited by WASC or regional equivalent or is on the SDUHSD approved list of unaccredited language programs for the school year the course is taken.
4. The amount of credit sought equals at least one semester's work. To receive college preparatory elective course credit, the language school must be WASC accredited and/or be UC approved. Non-accredited courses in languages other than English will be awarded non-college preparatory elective credit on the SDUHSD transcript only. Private language other than English courses that are not offered by SDUHSD do not count as part of the 30 credit off campus credit limit.
5. The principal or designee determines that the student's achievement is equivalent to that expected of a student of comparable ability taking the same or similar instruction in district schools. This determination shall be based on the private school's report of final grade.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48645.5 Enrollment of former juvenile court school students

48800-48802 Attendance at community college

51220 Areas of study; grades 7-12

51225.3 Graduation requirements; courses that satisfy college entrance criteria

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates

51440 Retroactive high school diplomas

51740-51741 Authority to provide instruction by correspondence 51745-51749.3 Independent study

51760-51769.5 Work experience education

52300-52499.66 Career technical education

VEHICLE CODE

12814.6 Teen driver's act

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1600-1635 Alternative credit

10070-10075 Work experience education

11500-11508 Regional occupational centers and programs

11520-11523 Proficiency examination and certificate

11700-11703 Independent study

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

2301-2414 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

Management Resources:

WEB SITE

Website [AASA The School Superintendents Association](#)

(7/04 3/06) 7/08

Board Adopted: September 19, 2019

Revised: June 17, 2021

Revised: June 23, 2022