

OAK PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD POLICY

Series 6000

Instruction

BP 6146.11(1)

Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Governing Board desires to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

With active involvement of parents/guardians, administrators, teachers, and students, the Board shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for high school graduation. These alternative means shall be made available to students, parent/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

The Superintendent or designee shall capture data on outside credit course requests, enrollment, and evaluate master schedules, and regularly present this information to the Board to ensure that actual outcomes align with the policy's intended purpose and effectiveness.

Students may fulfill any course requirements for graduation through the following:

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies (Education Code 51225.3)

Opportunities to demonstrate skills and competencies shall include, but not be limited to, challenging a course through successful completion of a district-developed examination which covers course objectives. The district shall not use results from the General Educational Development test or other state or national tests for this purpose.

2. Supervised work experience or other outside school experience in accordance with Education Code 51760.3 and 5 CCR 1635. (Education Code 51225.3)
3. Career technical education classes offered in high school (Education Code 51225.3)
4. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs (Education Code 51225.3)
5. Interdisciplinary study (Education Code 51225.3)
6. Independent study (Education Code 51225.3)
7. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution through concurrent enrollment (Education Code 48800, 51225.3) The Board supports advanced learning opportunities for high school students to be enrolled in both high school and college classes. The Board authorizes district and school administration to approve concurrent enrollment and, allowing students, under certain circumstances, to earn up to 40 high school credits for the completion of college coursework.
8. Alternatively with prior approval, students are permitted to take up to 40 credits from other institutions for high school graduation credit, not exceeding ten credits per academic year. Courses taken outside OPUSD with prior approval will earn (and be recorded on the OPUSD transcript as) "Credit" or "No Credit" and will not be factored into a student's Grade Point Average (GPA). An exception to this policy, allowing for courses to earn a letter grade and be included in the student's GPA as well as count towards high school graduation requirements, is

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when an Oak Park High School course was repeated for credit recovery or cannot be accommodated in a student's schedule in the current school year despite being requested through the student information system, or due to other limitations/circumstances beyond the student's control. OPUSD is not liable or responsible for fees and charges required by non-OPUSD programs voluntarily taken by students for alternative credits towards graduation. It is the student's responsibility to submit the transcripts for outside courses (taken during the school year and/or during the summer) when submitting college applications.

9. Private instruction in accordance with 5 CCR 1631
10. Correspondence instruction from a California university or college accredited for teacher training in accordance with 5 CCR 1633 or online learning from an accredited university or college, or WASC affiliated school or program while enrolled full time at a traditional high school. 5 CCR 1633 (Education Code 51740-51741)
11. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634 (Education Code 51440)
12. For credit toward the district's physical education requirement, participation in district interscholastic athletic programs carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours when such participation entails a comparable amount of time and physical activity.

A student shall be eligible to satisfy graduation requirements in this manner only if the interscholastic program entails a comparable amount of time and physical activity.
13. For credit toward the district's world language credit successfully completed in a private school in accordance with 5 CCR 1632 (Education Code 51243)

Upon receiving advance, written application by the student or student's parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether the completion of the proposed alternative means would satisfy course requirements for graduation and what documentation shall be required, if any, to verify the student's successful completion. The Superintendent or designee shall make the final determination as to whether the student's completion of an alternative means is sufficient to satisfy the district's graduation requirements.

Prior approval from the principal or designee is required for any non-OPHS course to be added to the OPUSD transcript. The purpose of prior approval is to make sure the course is taken at an accredited institution and generates an official transcript. When it is determined that the course taken at an outside program is equivalent to a course provided by the district, the student may receive credit toward high school graduation requirements in addition to credit received from the college as outlined in the AR 6146.11 Alternative Credits Toward Graduation.

Adopted: 9-17-02

Amended: 8-24-04, 12-14-04, 5-16-06, 2-20-24

Policy Reference:

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BP 6146.11(3)

State

5 CCR 10070-10075

Description

[Work experience education](#)

5 CCR 11500-11508

[Regional occupational centers and programs](#)

5 CCR 11520-11523

[Proficiency examination and certificate](#)

5 CCR 11700-11705

[Independent study](#)

5 CCR 1600-1635

[Alternative credit](#)

Ed. Code 35160

[Authority of governing boards](#)

Ed. Code 35160.1

[Broad authority of school districts](#)

Ed. Code 48412

[Certificate of proficiency](#)

Ed. Code 48645.5

[Former juvenile court school students: enrollment](#)

Ed. Code 48800-48802

[Concurrent enrollment in community college](#)

Ed. Code 51220

[Course of study for grades 7-12](#)

Ed. Code 51225.3

[High school graduation requirements](#)

Ed. Code 51240-51246

[Exemptions from requirements](#)

Ed. Code 51420-51427

[High school equivalency certificates](#)

Ed. Code 51440

[Credit and granting of diploma to veterans and members of the military service](#)

Ed. Code 51740-51741

[Authority to provide instruction by correspondence](#)

Ed. Code 51745

[Independent study](#)

Ed. Code 51760-51769.5

[Work experience education](#)

Ed. Code 52300-52462

[Career technical education](#)

Veh. Code 12814.6

[Teen driver's act](#)

Federal

Description

20 USC 2301-2414

[Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act](#)

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BP 6146.11(4)

Management Resources

Description

Website

[CSBA District and
County Office of
Education Legal
Services](#)

Website

[California
Department of
Education](#)