

Yadkin County Schools

Credit By Demonstrated Mastery (CDM)

What is Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM)?

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) is the process by which a student may earn credit for a high school course by demonstrating a deep understanding of the content; without course enrollment or seat time. CDM was designed to respond to the needs of students, families, AIG community, school personnel and leadership.

CDM specifically offers North Carolina students the opportunity to personalize and accelerate their learning, thus allowing for optimal student growth while providing an opportunity to have effective seat time to learn new content.

If a student is successful in earning CDM, the transcript toward graduation will read "CDM." No grade or quality points will be granted for the course and the CDM will not be included in the student's GPA.

Who is eligible for CDM?

Access to the CDM process is open to all NC public school students in grades 9-12. CDM is offered for all high school courses with the exception of the following:

- Career and Technical Education (CTE) work-based learning courses (co-op, internship, apprenticeship)
- CTE courses that have a clinical setting as a requirement of the course, such as ProStart, Early Childhood Education I/II and Nursing Fundamentals
- CTE Advanced Studies courses
- English Language Learner (ELL) courses
- Healthful Living required courses
- AP/IB Courses

What is the process for acquiring high school credit through CDM?

1. Students will apply for CDM using this application.
2. Students will take the assessment for the course (Phase I).
3. Students will be notified of Phase II requirements (artifacts and/or performance assessments) if they have met the superior level on the Phase I Course Assessment.
 - a. Superior is defined as a Level 5 on an EOC Course, 93% on CTE post-assessments, and 90% on local exams.

What is the CDM timeline?

September 4, 2025: Student applications are due to school counselors. All applications should be forwarded to Assistant Superintendent Boomer Kennedy.

September 15-26, 2025: Students take Phase I assessment.

October 15, 2025: Report results of Phase I to students/families.

October 17, 2025: Schedule Phase II artifact work for students who achieve the required standard on the Phase I assessment.

October 20-31, 2025: Conduct school-level artifact review.

November 7, 2025: Provide results to students/families, provide an appeal process, finalize appeal decisions, share results, amend student schedules.

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Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) Application

STUDENT INFORMATION		
Student Name:		School:
Mailing Address:		Student Date of Birth:
Student ID:	Current Grade Level:	Student Email:
Parent/Guardian Name:	Parent/Guardian Phone:	Parent/Guardian Email:

CDM COURSE REQUEST
Instead of traditional course enrollment and seat-time, I am requesting the opportunity to earn Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) for the following course: Course Name: _____

STUDENT/FAMILY AGREEMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I understand this process will include a multi-phase assessment with Phase I and Phase II requirements.• Phase I will include an examination to establish my mastery of required skills and content for this course.• I must earn a Level 5 for an EOC Course, 93% or above for a CTE post-assessment, or 90% or above for local exams on Phase I in order to move to Phase II.• I have one attempt for the exam and cannot be enrolled in the course at the time of the CDM process.• Phase II will involve creating artifacts that demonstrate deep understanding of the content standards expected at the end of the course. I can review these standards at www.ncpublicschools.org.• If I am successful on Phase I and II assessments, I will earn a “CDM” on my transcript toward graduation. No grade or quality points will be granted and the “CDM” will not be included in my GPA.• I understand that I should meet with my school counselor and/or administrator to discuss the process and long-term implications of CDM to see if it’s the best decision for me.
I understand all of the above and agree to abide by the process defined above. Student Signature: _____ Date: _____ Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____