

Advanced Opportunities

The District provides opportunities for students to begin earning credit for college and vocational programs and/or to take advanced placement or other college credit-bearing or professional certificate examinations while they attend school in the District.

Participation in the District's advanced opportunities program requires parent and student agreement to program requirements and completion of the District's participation form documenting the program requirements found in 2435F.

In order to ensure that students have a chance to participate in advanced opportunity programs, the Board hereby directs the Executive Director to establish procedures with timelines, requirements for participation, requirements for financial transactions, and transcription of credits.

Definitions

"Credit" means middle level or high school credit.

"Dual credit" means credit awarded to a student on his or her secondary and postsecondary transcript for the completion of a single course. Students may be allowed dual credit when approved in advance.

"Full credit load" means at least 12 credits per school year for grades 7 through 12 or the maximum number of credits offered by the student's school during the regular school day per school year, whichever is greater.

"Overload course" means a course taken that is in excess of a full credit load and outside of the regular school day, including summer courses

"School year" means the normal school year that begins upon the conclusion of the spring semester leading up to the break between grades and ends upon the beginning of the same break of the following year.

Fast Forward Program

The State's Advanced Opportunities funding, known as the Fast Forward program, provides students in the District with \$4,125 to use toward overload courses, dual credits, college credit-bearing examinations, career technical certificate examinations, and federal registered workforce training programs that lead to regional 'in demand' jobs.

Students may access these funds in grades 7 through 12 for:

1. Overload courses, in an amount which may not exceed \$225 per overload course. A student must take and successfully be completing a full credit load within a given school year to be eligible for funding of an overload course. An overload course must be taken for high school credit to be eligible for funding.
2. Eligible dual credits, in an amount which may not exceed \$75 per one dual credit hour.
3. Eligible postsecondary credit-bearing examinations.
4. Career technical education (CTE) examinations that lead to an industry-recognized certificate, license, or degree.
5. Eligible CTE workforce training courses up to \$500 per course and \$1,000 per year. Eligible training courses and costs will be maintained by the State Department of Education.

To qualify as an eligible overload course for the program, the course must be offered by a provider accredited by the organization that accredits Idaho high schools and be taught by an individual certified to teach the grade and subject area of the course in Idaho. Eligible examinations include advanced placement (AP), international baccalaureate (IB), college-level examination program (CLEP), and career-technical examinations.

The District shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that any student who considers participating in the District's advanced opportunities program understands the challenges and time necessary to succeed in the program. The District shall make such efforts prior to a student's participation in the program.

Parents of participating students may enroll their child in any eligible course, with or without the permission of the District, up to the course enrollment limits described in this policy. Each participating student's transcript shall include the credits earned and grades received by the student for any courses taken pursuant to this policy. For an eligible course to be transcribed as meeting the requirements of a core subject, as identified in administrative rule, the course must meet the approved content standards for the applicable subject and grade level.

The District shall establish timelines and requirements for participation in the program, including implementing procedures for the appropriate transcription of credits, reporting of program participation, and financial transaction requirements.

A student who has earned 15 postsecondary credits using the advanced opportunities program and wishes to earn additional credits must first identify his or her postsecondary goals. Advisors shall counsel any student who wishes to take dual credit courses that the student should ascertain for him/herself whether the particular postsecondary institution that he or she desires to attend will accept the transfer of coursework under this section

Other Reference: Idaho Department of Education Advanced Opportunities Portal (available at: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops/index.html>) (last accessed 10/18/19)

Policy History:

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Reviewed on: