

Cottonwood Joint School District No. 242

INSTRUCTION

2440C

Online Courses and Alternative Credit Options

In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students may earn credit through the following means, with prior approval. Instruction to elementary students may also be provided via virtual/online courses provided by the Idaho Digital Learning Alliance or any other accredited institution during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Virtual/Online Courses

The Superintendent is authorized to create a process for students enrolled in secondary schools to register for enrollment in online courses provided by accredited organizations. At a minimum, such process for registration for online courses shall be accommodated through the District's normal registration process. Any such registration requests shall be made no later than 30 days prior to the end of the term preceding the term in which online enrollment is sought.

Online courses may be counted as credit toward graduation.

Correspondence Courses

The District will permit a student to enroll in an approved correspondence course from an institution approved by the State Department of Education, in order that such a student may include a greater variety of learning experiences within the student's educational program.

High school students may earn, through correspondence, a maximum of three units of academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements. Only two units may be earned during any one school year.

Only courses offered by institutions recognized by the Board will be accepted. The express approval of the principal shall be obtained before the course is taken.

Credit for correspondence courses may be granted provided the following requirements are met:

1. Prior permission has been granted by the principal; and
2. The program fits the education plan submitted by the regularly enrolled student.

An official record of the final grade must be received by the school before a diploma may be issued to the student.

Challenge Exams

Students may be allowed to challenge a course and receive credit for a course by passing an approved examination, which covers the course content in a regular school course in that subject.

If the course is a core class required by the State of Idaho, a test and course grade must be assigned. Classes which are not required may be assigned a pass/fail grade. Courses assigned a pass/fail grade will not be used in computing Grade Point Averages.

Credit Recovery Program

Teachers and students alike must expect and work for success, and usually, higher expectations will result in greater success. Students who fail a subject or course because of too little effort and a poor attitude are setting themselves up for progressive failures in subsequent grades and courses. Parents of students who are in jeopardy in a subject or course will be notified immediately when the probability of failure becomes apparent. The teacher, parent and student will jointly agree on strategies that will help the student meet the subject or course expectations.

Correspondence, extension, or online courses taken to recover credit must be approved in advance by the building principal.

The District will, through a learning center, offer an alternative summer program for students in grades 5-12 who have failed a core course. Students who have failed a core subject or course will, prior to taking the next sequential course, be required to:

1. Repeat the subject or course; or
2. Satisfactorily complete a makeup course provided by the learning center.

In the case of a senior student, a failed core course must be made up prior to receiving a diploma. It is highly recommended that make-up courses be taken during the summer vacation immediately following the failure.

In general terms, this program will:

1. Offer make-up for all core courses from grades 5-12;
2. Require four to six weeks of attendance in mid-summer to complete the work assignments;
3. Require the student to pass a standard test on the course;
4. Require the building principal's signature for enrollment; and
5. Require that the student assume the costs for the course.

Students who fail a required high school class or lose credit due to absences and fail to recover this credit during the summer will be required to take the course over through the Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA) during the following school year. The class time to complete the IDLA course will be allowed in the students' regular schedule and will be supervised in the Prairie High School or IDLA Lab. Some Special Education students may be exempted from this requirement as required by State and federal law and administrative rules.

Cross Reference: 2700 - 2700P
3030

High School Graduation Requirements
Part-Time Attendance/Dual Enrollment

3050

Attendance

Legal Reference: I.C. §33-5501, et seq. Idaho Digital Learning Academy

Policy History:

Adopted on: April 18, 2016

Revised on: