

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT:
CREDIT BY EXAMINATION WITHOUT PRIOR INSTRUCTION

EHDC (REGULATION)
(EXHIBIT)

See the following pages for the forms necessary for applying for credit by examination without prior instruction:

- Exhibit A: Credit by Examination without Prior Instruction – Parental/Student Notification – Grades 1-12 – 1 page
- Exhibit B: Credit by Examination without Prior Instruction – Parental Approval/Student Application Form – Grades 1-12 – 1 page
- Exhibit C: Notice of Request for Kindergarten Acceleration – 1 page
- Exhibit D: Acceleration (Grades 1-5) Data Review and Signature Form – 1 page
- Exhibit E: Acceleration (Grades 6-12) Data Review and Signature Form – 1 page
- Exhibit F: Kindergarten Acceleration Data Review and Signature Form – 1 page

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EXHIBIT A

Northwest Independent School District

Credit by Examination without Prior Instruction

Parental /Student Notification Grades 1-12

Credit by examination without prior instruction provides an alternative procedure for grade/class placement(s). Students in grades 1-5 may be advanced one grade, and students in grades 6-12 may receive a unit of credit for a course, if the District's requirements are accomplished as follows:

CRITERIA FOR RECEIVING CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

- Students in grades 1-5 must score 80% or above in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies appropriate to the grade level from which acceleration is sought. Elementary students will not be advanced in isolated subject areas.
- Students in grades 6-12 must score 80% or above on the examination for the course in which credit is sought. Students must receive a score of 80% or above on the tests for both semesters of a course, if applicable, in order to receive credit for examinations. No PreAP/AP credit can be earned through Credit by Examination.

COST FOR TAKING CREDIT BY EXAMINATION TESTS

- There is no charge to students for criterion-referenced tests covered by this application.
- If parents request an alternative examination, the parent will pay the cost of the examination purchased from Texas Tech University or University of Texas at Austin and the District will recognize the results of the test(s). The parent/student will order and pay for the approved alternative test and have the alternative test shipped directly to the student's attended school's counseling office. The District will not accept alternative tests that are received personally from a parent or student.
- At the elementary level, students are required to retest in all four core areas.

REGISTRATION FOR TAKING CREDIT BY EXAMINATION TESTS

- Parents must complete the Credit by Examination Without Prior Instruction – Parent Approval/Student Application Grades 1-12.
- The Registration Form (EHDC (Regulation) (Exhibit B)) must be returned to the student's counselor no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled testing date for which the student is registering.

To be completed by the Coordinator for Advanced Academics:

EXAM LOCATION:		TIME:
EXAM DATES:	DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION:	

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EXHIBIT B

Northwest Independent School District
Credit by Examination without Prior Instruction
Parental Approval/Student Application Form Grades 1-12

Please fill in all information and return a copy of this form to the school counselor no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled testing date for which the student is registering.

Student's Name:	Date of Birth:	Student ID #:
Mother's Name:	Daytime Phone:	
Father's Name:	Daytime Phone:	
Home Street Address:	City:	Zip:
Current Grade:	Campus:	
Grade Level or Course Name which student is registering:	Test Date for which student is registering:	

If student is requesting an alternative examination or an alternative date, complete the following:

Alternative test date: _____ (please provide date)

Alternative examination for: _____ (course subject)

By signing below, I the parent of _____ (student's name), understand that I am responsible for the cost of the alternative examination.

By signing this form, I attest that:

- _____ (student's name) has not received prior instruction in the course or grade for which I am requesting a test:
- I have read the information the District has provided to me regarding examinations for acceleration:
- I understand that the District will not provide transportation to the testing site, which might be outside of the District; and
- I approve of my child's acceleration or receipt of credit if he or she meets the passing standard (if applicable).

Student signature (if student is 18 or older): _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of person submitting form: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY CAMPUS COUNSELOR:
Acceleration Course/s requested and level:

For office use only (if student is requesting an alternative examination or an alternative date):

Approved Denied

Principal signature: _____ Date: _____

Original to: Campus Administrator or Counselor
Copy to: Parent

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EXHIBIT C

Northwest Independent School District

Notice of Request for Kindergarten Acceleration

A Kindergarten student of legal age (i.e. at least five years of age on or before September 1 of the current school year) must be enrolled in the District to be considered for grade one placement at the request of the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian must submit the following request within the first three weeks of school.

The following guidelines for consideration shall apply:

- The student must be placed in kindergarten for an informal assessment before being considered for first grade. **This diagnostic period should not exceed six weeks.**
- The student shall achieve 80% or above on the following administered tests:
 - Reading Assessment
 - Math Assessment
- The kindergarten acceleration review committee, composed of the campus principal or designee, the counselor, a grade 1 teacher, the student's assigned kindergarten teacher, a central office representative knowledgeable in curriculum/instruction for young children, and the parents, shall coordinate the process for assessment in order to determine whether to recommend acceleration.
- Placement will be contingent upon the decision of a Kindergarten Acceleration Review Committee based upon the student's performance, social maturity, observation records or records from a previous kindergarten setting.

Parent Request for Kindergarten Acceleration

Campus	Date
Name of Student	Date of Birth
Name of Parent/Guardian	

My signature below indicates that I have received an explanation of the guidelines for consideration for kindergarten acceleration and understand the evaluation process. It is my desire that the student named above be considered for kindergarten acceleration.

Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date
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EXHIBIT D

Northwest Independent School District
Acceleration (Grades 1-5) Data Review and Signature Form

School _____

Student _____ Date _____

Assessment	Student Score	Minimum Required Score	Meet Requirement Yes or No?
Language Arts		80%	
Mathematics		80%	
Science		80%	
Social Studies		80%	

In order to receive credit by examination, elementary students must take and score 80% or above in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies appropriate to the grade level from which acceleration is sought. (See EHDC Regulation)

Remain in Grade _____

Accelerate to Grade _____

Signature of Principal or Designee

Original: Student's Cumulative (Cum) Folder

Copy: Parent (_____) _____
Date

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EXHIBIT E

Northwest Independent School District

Acceleration (Grades 6-12) Data Review and Signature Form

School _____

Student _____ Date _____

Assessment	Student Score	Minimum Required Score	Meet Requirement Yes or No?
		80%	
		80%	
		80%	
		80%	

A student in grades 6-12 will be given credit for an academic subject in which he or she has had no prior instruction if the student scores 80% or above on a criterion-referenced test for the applicable course. (See EHDC Regulation)

Credit Earned _____

Signature of Principal or Designee

Original: Student's Cumulative (Cum) Folder

Copy: Parent (_____) _____
Date

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EXHIBIT F

Northwest Independent School District

Kindergarten Acceleration Data Review and Signature Form

School _____

Student _____ Date _____

The Kindergarten Acceleration Committee has reviewed the data listed below and made the following decision about grade level placement:

Remain in Kindergarten _____
Accelerate to Grade 1 _____

Mathematics Assessment

Score _____%

Grade 1 Beginning-of-Year Literacy Assessments

Area or Assessment	Source	Score Expectations	Results
Text Level	<i>DRA 2</i>	8 Independent (96-100% accuracy)	
Letter Identification	<i>DRA 2 Word Analysis:</i> Task 5-capital letters; Task 6-lower case letters	48-51	
Hearing and Recording Sounds	<i>Observation Survey</i> Assessment Notebook pg. 34	30-37	
Spelling Task 10	<i>DRA 2</i>	100	
Writing Stage	Analytical Writing Rubic Assessment Notebook pgs. 46 & 47	3-6	

Principal's Signature _____

GT Specialist's Signature _____

Grade 1 Teacher's Signature _____

Kindergarten Teacher's Signature _____

Original: Student's Cumulative (Cum) Folder

Copy: Parent (_____) _____
Date