

**ALTERNATIVE PATHS TO ATTAINING STANDARD UNITS OF CREDIT:  
CREDIT-BY-EXAM FOR WORLD LANGUAGES**

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) complies with the *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*, including the awarding of standard and verified units of credit. The award of standard credit for a high school course is based on 140 clock hours of instruction and completing the requirements of the course, as further detailed in Policy IKF and Regulation IKF-R. However, the Alexandria City School Board recognizes that instruction, learning and outcomes equivalent to those achieved in 140 clock hours of instruction can be attained in a variety of ways. Therefore, the School Board permits the awarding of standard credit without 140 clock hours when students with the ability to comprehend and communicate in languages other than English demonstrate achievement via Division-approved national or international assessments (credit-by-exam).

A maximum of three (3) standard (world language) credits can be achieved via the credit-by-exam option by students in grades 6-12. If successful, students will receive a “pass” grade for the equivalent course(s), which will appear as a “P” on transcripts to signify the levels have been successfully completed. Students will not receive a letter grade that will impact their grade point average (GPA). Standard credits achieved through this option are considered equal to any other standard credit in terms of class rank, grade point average, extracurricular eligibility, and high school transcripts.

Pursuit of credit-by-exam by students with disabilities will be prescribed by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan.

Full implementation guidance for this policy is found in Regulation IKFD-R.

Adopted: April 26, 2018

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-253.13:4.

8 VAC 20-131-110 (Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia).

Guidelines for Graduation Requirements; Local Alternative Paths to Standard Units of Credit, Virginia Board of Education (Oct. 2015).

Cross Refs.: IAA Notification of Learning Objectives  
IGBG Homebound, Correspondence and Alternative Means of Instruction  
IGBGA Online Courses and Virtual School Programs  
IGBF English Learners  
IKEB Acceleration  
IKF The Virginia Assessment Program and Graduation Requirements  
IKF-R The Virginia Assessment Program and Graduation Requirements Regulations  
IKFD-R Credit-By-Exam for World Languages Regulations  
JO Student Records