

Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Alternative Credit Options	Descriptor Code: 4.209	Issued Date: 05/13/19
		Rescinds:	Issued: 07/08/13

ONLINE COURSES

High school students may earn credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing online courses offered through agencies or institutions approved by the Board. Credit from these online courses may be earned only in the following circumstances:

1. The course is not offered at the high school, or although the course is offered at the high school, the student has an unavoidable scheduling conflict;
2. The course will serve as a supplement to homebound instruction;
3. The student has been expelled from a regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued; or
4. The principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parent(s)/guardian(s), determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.

The express approval of the principal/designee shall be obtained *before* a student enrolls in an online course. The school shall receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.

Through a supervision plan, the school shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and monitoring of students taking online courses.

COURSE ACCESS PROGRAM

Students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) may participate in the statewide course access program. To become eligible to participate, students shall:

1. Meet all prerequisite requirements for the course access course; and
2. Be unable to enroll in a comparable course at the student's school because:
 - a. A comparable course is not offered; or
 - b. A legitimate situation exists that prevents the student from enrolling in a comparable course.¹

The Director of Schools shall develop administrative procedures to ensure that students and parent(s)/guardian(s) are given written notice of their right to appeal any denial of a course access course enrollment in a timely manner.² All appeals shall be submitted in writing to the Board within five (5) days of a denial.

After a timely appeal is made, the Board will provide written notification to the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the time, place, and date of the hearing. The hearing shall be held no later than ten (10) days after the appeal is submitted. At the hearing, the Board shall determine whether there was an error in denying the student the ability to participate in the course access program.³

Legal References

1. TRR/MS 0520-01-14-.03(1)
2. TRR/M 0520-01-14-.03(7)
3. TRR/MS 0520-01-14-.03(6)

Cross References

Homebound Instruction 4.206
Grading System 4.600
Graduation Requirements 4.605