

<h1>POLICY</h1>	2016	8410
	Instruction	

SUBJECT: Independent Study

The Board of Education recognizes the value of supervised independent study for students in situations where special interest, abilities, or unique individual needs cannot be properly accommodated in the regular instructional program. In accordance with the New York State Commissioner’s Regulations students may earn a maximum of 3 units of elective credit towards a Regents diploma through independent study.

Student participation in independent study shall be approved by a school-based panel consisting of, at a minimum, the principal, a teacher in the subject area for which independent study credit is sought, and a guidance counselor or other administrator. The panel shall approve the student’s participation in independent study based on the following criteria:

- The student has demonstrated readiness and has a high likelihood of success (may be indicated by a given grade point average in general or in the given subject area) in each subject in which he or she seeks to undertake independent study; and
- the student has accumulated the expected number of units of credit for the student’s grade level; and
- the student has passed the appropriate number of Regents examinations or other assessments required for graduation, for the student’s grade level.

Independent study shall be:

- academically rigorous and aligned to the New York State commencement-level learning standards;
- overseen by a teacher knowledgeable and experienced in the subject area of the independent study;
- based on a syllabus on file for each independent study; and
- of comparable scope and quality to classroom work that would have been done at the school awarding the credit.

The principal, after consultation with relevant faculty, shall award credit to the student for successful completion of the independent study and demonstrated mastery of the learning outcomes for the subject.

Credit for independent study may be awarded for elective courses only, and shall not be awarded for courses required for the Regents diploma as specified in subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of this section. (8 NYCRR § 100.5 [d] [9]).

Approved: Board of Education
June 13, 2012

Approved: Board of Education
June 15, 2016