

Education Programs

Online Learning Options

I. Purpose

This policy recognizes and governs online learning options of students enrolled in the school district for purposes of compulsory attendance and academic credit. Online learning offers students an element of control over the time, place, path, or pace of their learning.

II. General Statement of Policy

- A. The school district supports the opportunity provided through online learning and will not prohibit an enrolled student from applying to enroll in online learning.
- B. The district will grant academic credit for completing the requirements of an online learning course or program.
- C. The district will allow an online learning student to have the same access to the computer hardware and education software available in the school district as all other students in the school district. The district is not responsible for providing additional hardware, software, access, or connectivity as required by the student for a course taken outside Edina Public Schools.
- D. The district will continue to provide non-academic services to online learning students enrolled in Edina Public Schools.
- E. Online learning students may participate in the extra-curricular activities of the school district on the same basis as other enrolled students.

III. Definitions

- A. “Online learning” (OLL) is learning facilitated by technology and is delivered by an appropriately licensed teacher through an online learning provider.
- B. “Online learning student” is a student enrolled in the school district for purposes of compulsory attendance and enrolled in an online learning course or program delivered by an online learning provider.
- C. “Online learning provider” is a school district, intermediate school district, postsecondary institution, organization of two or more school districts operating under a joint powers agreement, or a charter school located in Minnesota that provides online learning to students and is approved by the Minnesota

Department of Education (MDE) to provide online learning courses. Online learning providers must be approved by the superintendent or designee.

IV. Procedures

A. Dissemination and Receipt of Information

1. The school district will receive, maintain, and disseminate information provided to it by online learning providers.
2. Online courses must meet all policies and standards established by the district.

B. Students

1. A student may apply to an online learning provider to enroll in online learning. The student must have the written consent of a parent or guardian to do so if the student is under eighteen (18) years of age.
2. A student may enroll in online learning courses up to the midpoint of the assigned school's term. The district may waive this requirement for special circumstances and upon acceptance by the online provider. Exceptions for unique circumstances may be approved by the director of teaching and learning.
3. An online learning provider will notify the district and the student within ten (10) days of acceptance of the student's online learning course or program and hours of instruction.
4. The online provider must make available to the district the course syllabus, standard alignment, content outline, assessment requirements, and contact information for online courses taken by students from the district.
5. An online learning student may enroll in online learning courses during the school year to a maximum of 50% of the student's full schedule of courses per term. A student may exceed the supplemental OLL enrollment registration limit if the district grants permission for supplemental OLL enrollment above the limit, or if an agreement is made between the district and the OLL provider for instructional services. Exceptions for unique circumstances may be approved by the director of teaching and learning.
6. To enroll in more than 50% of their full schedule of courses per term in online learning the student must apply for enrollment to a full-time learning program, in accordance with state law.
7. An online learning student may complete course work at a grade level that is different from the student's current grade level.

7. When a student is enrolled in online classes up to but not exceeding a full-term load, they can take the classes in place of in-person offerings at no cost to the student.
8. An online learning student can add an online course at no cost if they agree to reduce their registered school-based course schedule by an equal amount during the academic year.
9. To enroll in more than 100% of their full schedule of courses per term, an online learning student may enroll in additional courses with a secondary or postsecondary online learning provider under a separate agreement that includes terms for payment of any tuition or course fees that would be the responsibility of the student.
10. To the extent the district provides curriculum to resident students that has both physical and electronic components, the district must make the electronic component accessible to a shared-time resident student in a homeschool at the request of the student or the student's parent or guardian, provided that the district does not incur more than an incidental cost as a result of providing access electronically.
11. The district will provide support services to district students taking supplemental online courses as they would for any other enrolled student including support for multilingual students, case management of an individualized education program, and meal and nutrition services.

C. Classroom Membership and Teacher Contact Time

1. The district may reduce an online learning student's regular classroom instructional membership in proportion to the student's membership in online learning courses.
2. The district may reduce the teacher contact time of an online learning student in proportion to the number of online learning courses the student takes from an online learning provider other than the district.
3. A teacher with a Minnesota license will assemble and deliver instruction to enrolled students receiving online learning from the district. The delivery of instruction occurs when the student interacts with the computer or the teacher and receives ongoing assistance and assessment of learning. The instruction may include curriculum developed by persons other than a teacher with a Minnesota license as long as it is a part of a course that has been approved by MDE.

D. Academic Credit; Graduation Standards or Requirements

1. The district will apply the same graduation requirements to all students, including online learning students.

2. The district will use the same criteria for accepting online learning credits or courses as it does for accepting credits or courses for nonresident transfer students under Minnesota law.
3. The district may challenge the validity of a course offered by an online learning provider. Such a challenge will be filed with MDE.
4. The district will count secondary credits granted to an online learning student toward its graduation and credit requirements.
5. If a student completes an online learning course or program that meets or exceeds a graduation standard or grade progression requirement set by the district, that standard or requirement will be met.
6. District students who successfully complete an online course provided by the district will receive a letter grade that will be used in the calculation of grade point average and placed on the student's transcript.
7. District students who successfully complete an online course provided by another online provider will receive a letter grade that will not be used in the calculation of grade point average but will be placed on the student's transcript.
8. Students, not otherwise enrolled in the district, who successfully complete an online course provided by the district, will receive a letter grade that will be reported to the student's resident school district. The resident school district will determine whether the grade will be used in the calculation of grade point average or how it is placed on the student's transcript.
9. Students who enroll and successfully complete an online postsecondary course will receive a course grade of "P" (Passing) that will not be used in the calculation of grade point average but will be placed on the student's transcript.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 123B.42, subd. 1a (Curriculum; Electronic Components)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.095 (Online Learning Option Act)

Cross References:

Policy 510 (Open Enrollment)
Policy 605 (Alternative Programs and Services)
Policy 608 (Instructional Services - Special Education)
Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
Policy 620 (Receiving Course Credit for Learning)

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Edina, Minnesota