

The Board authorizes the creation of alternative learning experience (ALE) courses.

The district will make available to students enrolled in ALE courses educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs. The district will comply with all program requirements necessary to count ALE as a course of study and ensure state funding for ALE students.

ALE programs may include the following types of courses as defined in law:

1. Online courses,
2. Remote courses, and
3. Site-based courses.

The Board will adopt and annually review written policies authorizing ALE courses, including each ALE course and course provider. The policy must designate, by title, one or more school district official(s) responsible for overseeing the district's ALE courses.

The district has established the following program(s) on site, remote, or online as ALE programs. The district considers these to be school programs of choice which means that students must apply to attend and meet written eligibility requirements to be approved for admission. Eligibility requirements will be posted on the district website and will be included in the enrollment application.

1. North Thurston Family Partnership
2. Summit Virtual Academy
3. Apex and Continuing Education Services
4. Credit retrieval

The District approves specific ALE programs or courses, approves instructional materials for use in student learning plans, monitors compliance, and reports annually to the Board.

#### Reporting Requirements

1. Annual report to the Board of Directors

The school district official responsible for overseeing each ALE course will report at least annually to the board. This annual report will include at least the following:

- Documentation of ALE student headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment claimed for basic education funding,
- Identification of the overall ratio of certificated instructional staff to full-time equivalent students enrolled in each ALE course,
- The number of certificated staff in each ALE course, and

- A description of how the course supports the district's overall goals and objectives for student academic achievement.
2. Monthly report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction:
    - Accurate monthly headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment for students enrolled in an ALE, and
    - Information about the resident and service districts of such students.
  3. Regular submission to CEDARS  
The district must report all required information to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's Comprehensive Education Data and Research System, including designating ALE courses as such when reporting course information.
  4. Annual report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction
    - A. The number of certificated instructional staff full-time equivalent assigned to each ALE program; and
    - B. Enrollment of students where ALE instruction is provided entirely under contract; and
    - C. The costs and purposes for any expenditures made to purchase or contract for instructional or co-curricular experiences and services that are included in an ALE written student learning plan, along with the substantially similar experiences or services made available to students enrolled in the district's regular instructional program.

**Assessment Requirements:**

All students enrolled in ALE courses or course work must be assessed at least annually, using, for full-time students, the state assessment for the student's grade level and using any other annual assessments required by the district.

Part-time students whose ALE enrollment is claimed as greater than 0.8 FTE in any one month through the January count date must be included by the district in any required state or federal accountability reporting for that school year. However, part-time students who are either receiving home-based instruction or who are enrolled in an approved private school are not required to participate in the assessments.

Students enrolled in nonresident district ALE course or course work who are unable to participate in required annual state assessments at the nonresident district must have the opportunity to participate in such required annual state assessments at the district of physical residence, subject to that district's planned testing schedule. It is the responsibility of the nonresident enrolling district to establish a written agreement with the district of physical residence that facilitates all necessary coordination between the districts and with the student and, where appropriate, the student's parent/guardian to fulfill the requirement. Such coordination may include arranging for appropriate assessment materials,

notifying the student of assessment administration schedules, arranging for the forwarding of completed assessment materials to the enrolling district for submission for scoring and reporting, and arranging for any allowable testing accommodations, and other steps as may be necessary.

Valid Justification for Missed Contact:

Valid justifications why a student may miss the weekly contact requirement of ALE for the purpose of truancy include those outlined in law and district policy.

Students who drop out of ALE courses:

A school district offering or contracting to offer an ALE course to a nonresident student must inform the resident school district if the student drops out of the course or is no longer enrolled.

Legal Reference:	RCW 28A.150.305 RCW 28A.232.010  RCW 28A.250.050  WAC 392-121-107 WAC 392-121-182  WAC 392-121-188  WAC 392-137-230 Chapter 28.225 RCW	ALE providers – Student eligibility ALE courses – General Rules – Reports Student access to online courses and online learning Definition course of study Alternative learning experience requirements Instruction provided under contract Length of acceptance Compulsory school attendance and admission
Adopted:	August 28, 2006	NTPS Board of Directors
Amended:	October 9, 2010	NTPS Board of Directors
	February 23, 2021	NTPS Board of Directors