

**ALTERNATIVE CREDITS TOWARD GRADUATION**

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Board of Education desires to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*  
*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*  
*(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)*  
*(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)*  
*(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)*

With the active involvement of parents/guardians, administrators, teachers, and students, the Board shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for high school graduation. These alternative means shall be made available to students, parents/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*  
*(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)*

Upon receiving advance, written application by the student or his/her parent/guardian, the Principal or designee shall determine whether completion of the proposed alternative means would satisfy course requirements for graduation and what documentation shall be required, if any, to verify the student's successful completion. The Superintendent or designee shall make the final determination as to whether the student's completion of an alternative means is sufficient to satisfy the district's graduation requirements.

Students may fulfill any course requirement for graduation through the following:

1. Private instruction in accordance with Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 1631
2. Correspondence instruction from a California university or college accredited for teacher training in accordance with 5 CCR 1633 (Education Code 51740-51741)
3. For credit toward the district's foreign language requirement, foreign language studies successfully completed in a private school in accordance with Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 1362 (Education Code 51243)

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4. Credits earned through approved courses that are delivered over the Internet or provided through a set curriculum via software
5. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution (Education Code 48800, 51225.3)

*(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)*

6. Independent study (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)*

7. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs (ROP) (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)*

8. Credits earned while studying abroad

*(cf. 6145.6 International Exchange)*

As appropriate, the Principal or designee shall determine the grade to be assigned to students for the completion of any of the above alternative means. When a grade is assigned by a private school, postsecondary institution, or other educational institution for completion of coursework, that same grade shall be awarded by the district provided that the Principal or designee has determined the alternative course to be substantially equivalent to a district course. The decision may be appealed to the Chief Academic Officer or their designee.

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

35160 - Authority of governing boards

35160.1 - Broad authority of school districts

48412 - Certificate of proficiency

48645.5 - Course credit, juvenile court schools

48800-48802 - Attendance at community college; advanced education

51220 - Areas of study; grades 7-12

51225.3 - Requirements for graduation

51240-51246 - Exemptions from requirements

51420-51427 - General Education Development text

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*51440 - Veteran's education, evaluation and credit toward high school graduation*

*51740-51741 - Authority to provide instruction by correspondence*

*51745-51749.3 - Independent Study*

*51760-51769.5 - Work experience education*

*52300-52499.66 - Career technical education*

VEHICLE CODE

*12814.6 - Teen driver's act*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

*1600-1635 - Alternative credit*

*10070-10075 - Work experience education*

*11500-11508 - Regional occupational centers and programs*

*11520-11523 - Proficiency examination and certificate*

*11700-11703 - Independent study*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

*2301-2414 - Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006*

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

*California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>*

**Policy**

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**PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Pasadena, California