

INSTRUCTIONAlternative Credits Toward Graduation

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Governing Board 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 on Standards of Proficiency/Graduation Requirements)*

*(cf. 6200 – Adult Education)*

The Board shall actively involve parents/guardians, administrators, teachers and students in helping the district develop alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for graduation. (Education Code 51225.3)

As an alternative to completing the course requirements for high school graduation, students may fulfill one or more of the course requirements through:

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies

*(cf. 6155 - Challenging Courses by Examinations)*

2. Supervised work experience up to 40 semester periods or other outside school experience, in accordance with Education Code 51760.3 and 5 CCR 1635, (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6178.1 - Work Experience Education)*

3. Career technical education classes offered in high schools (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6178 - Vocational Education)*

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

5. Interdisciplinary study (Education Code 51225.3)

6. Independent study (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)*

7. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution (Education Code 48800, 51225.3)

*(cf. 6172 – Gifted and Talented Student Program)*

8. Private instruction in accordance with 5 CCR 1631

9. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634
10. Correspondence instruction from a California university or college accredited for teacher training in accordance with 5 CCR 1633
11. A program approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles which offers driver education and behind-the-wheel instruction through a driving school or licensed independent driving instructor in accordance with Vehicle Code 12814.6

The satisfactory completion of this program may be used to satisfy the district's driver education and training requirement. (Vehicle Code 12814.6)

12. Participation in district interscholastic athletic programs carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours when such participation entails a comparable amount of time and physical activity.

Participation in these programs may be used for credit toward the district's physical education requirement. (Education Code 51242)

*(cf. 5121 – Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)*  
*(cf. 6142.7 – Physical Education)*  
*(cf. 6145.2 – Athletic Competition)*

13. Foreign Language studies successfully completed in a private school in accordance with 5 CCR 1632 (Education Code 51242)

The satisfactory completion of these studies may be used for credit toward the district's foreign language requirement.

The district shall accept for credit any coursework satisfactorily completed by students while detained in a juvenile court school or county or state-operated institution. District students who successfully complete district graduation requirements while so detained shall receive a diploma from the school they last attended. (Education Code 48645.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall determine whether a student has satisfactorily met course requirements through any of the above alternative means.

As appropriate, the Superintendent 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 Superintendent or designee has determined the alternative course to be substantially equivalent to a district course.

*Legal Reference:*

*EDUCATION CODE*  
*35160 Authority of governing boards*  
*35160.1 Broad authority of school districts*  
*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*  
*51241-51246 Exemptions from requirements*  
*51740-51741 Authority to provide instruction by correspondence*  
*51760-51769-5 Work experience education*  
*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*  
*1600-1635 Alternative credit*

*Management Resources:*

*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*  
*WEB SITES*  
*CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>*

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