
Concurrent Enrollment

Mapleton Public Schools (the "District") encourages high school-level students to pursue postsecondary-level coursework to get a jump on their postsecondary education. In accordance with this policy and accompanying regulation (IHCD A-R), Mapleton students may receive credit toward the fulfillment of high school graduation requirements for successful completion of approved postsecondary courses offered by institutions of higher education.

This policy and accompanying regulation do not apply to students seeking to enroll in postsecondary courses pursuant to the Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment (ASCENT) program. Students seeking to enroll in the ASCENT program shall work with District administrators and meet the applicable requirements of the Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act (the Act).

Definitions

For purposes of this policy and accompanying regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

"Concurrent enrollment" means the simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in a District high school program and in one or more postsecondary courses at an institution of higher education.

"Qualified student" means a person who is less than 21 years of age and is enrolled in the ninth grade or higher grade level.

"Postsecondary course" means a course offered by an institution of higher education and includes coursework that could result in the acquisition of a certificate; an associate degree of applied sciences, general studies, arts, or science; and all baccalaureate degree programs.

"Institution of higher education" means:

- a. A state university or college, community college, junior college, or area vocational school as described in title 23, C.R.S.;
- b. A postsecondary career and technical education program that offers postsecondary courses and is approved by the state board for community colleges and occupational education pursuant to applicable state law; and

- c. An educational institution operating in Colorado that meets the Act's specified criteria.

Eligibility

Qualified students seeking to enroll in postsecondary courses at the District's expense and receive high school credit for such courses shall follow the procedure accompanying this policy, IHCD A-R, including but not limited to timely submitting an application and establishing an academic plan of study. Qualified students must meet the minimum prerequisites and academic readiness for the postsecondary courses in which they seek to enroll.

The Board determines the manner in which it provides opportunities for concurrent enrollment. However, the district shall not unreasonably deny approval for concurrent enrollment or limit the number of postsecondary courses in which a qualified student may enroll consistent with state laws regarding concurrent enrollment.

Academic Credit

Academic credit granted for postsecondary courses successfully completed by a qualified student shall count as high school credit toward the District's graduation requirements, as long as the coursework has been preapproved by the District and unless such credit is denied.

High school credit shall be denied if a qualified student does not receive a passing grade for the postsecondary course. High school credit shall be denied for postsecondary courses that do not meet or exceed the District's standards. High school credit shall also be denied for a postsecondary course substantially similar to a course offered by the District, unless the qualified student's enrollment in the postsecondary course is approved due to a scheduling conflict or other reason deemed legitimate by the District. Concurrent enrollment is not available for summer school.

Agreement with Institution of Higher Education

When a qualified student seeks to enroll in postsecondary courses at an institution of higher education and receive high school credit for such courses, the District and the participating institution shall enter into a written cooperative agreement in accordance with the Act.

Payment of Tuition and Additional Costs

The District shall pay the tuition for postsecondary courses successfully completed by a qualified student and for which the qualified student receives high school credit.

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The tuition paid by the District for the qualified student's successful completion of an approved postsecondary course shall be in accordance with the Act and the District's cooperative agreement with the institution of higher education.

Prior to paying the tuition for any qualified student, the District shall require the student and student's parent/guardian to sign an agreement stating if the student fails or otherwise does not complete the postsecondary course for any reason without consent of the director of the school in which the student is enrolled, the student and/or the student's parent/guardian shall repay the amount of tuition paid by the District on the student's behalf.

The qualified student and the student's parent/guardian shall be responsible for the cost of textbooks and fees for postsecondary courses

Transportation

The District may provide or pay for the qualified student's transportation to the institution of higher education.

Notice

Information about concurrent enrollment options shall be made available to high school students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) on an annual basis. In addition, at least six weeks prior to the beginning of the enrollment period for postsecondary concurrent enrollment courses, written notice (which may be sent electronically) shall be provided to high school students and their parents/guardians of the postsecondary courses offered at no tuition cost to qualified students at the district and at an institution of higher education, any anticipated costs of textbooks and fees to the qualified student for those courses, and the number and transferability of course credits that a qualified student may earn by enrolling in and successfully completing a concurrent enrollment course.

*Adopted August 27, 2019, by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.
Revised September 22, 2020.*

LEGAL REFERENCES:

C.R.S. § 22-32-109(1)(nn) (discussion of the requirements for and benefits of concurrent enrolment must be part of ICAP process)

C.R.S. §§ 22-35-101 et seq. (Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act)

1 CCR 301-86 (State Board of Education rules regarding the Administration of the Concurrent Enrollment Program)

CROSS REFERENCES:

IHBK: Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Success

IJNDAB: Instruction through Online Courses

IKF: Graduation Requirements

JFC: Student Withdrawal from School/Dropouts