
CREDIT FOR ONLINE COURSES AND REMOTE LEARNING

The Ansonia Board of Education (“Board”), in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221a, sanctions the receipt of online course credit to be used toward high school graduation requirements, in accordance with this policy. In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 10-4w, beginning with the school year commencing July 1, 2022, the Board also authorizes Ansonia Public Schools to offer remote learning for students in grades nine through twelve in accordance with this policy. Further, beginning with the school year commencing July 1, 2024, the Board authorizes the District to offer remote learning for students in grades kindergarten through twelve in accordance with this policy.

I. CREDIT FOR ONLINE COURSES

A. Pre-approval of Courses

To receive credit for online courses to be used toward high school graduation requirements, for courses that are not part of the Board’s remote learning model, students must, prior to registering for the course, receive approval from the high school principal or designee. The decision of the principal or designee with regard to online course credit approval is final. Pre-approval for online course credit may be granted if the requirements set forth below are met.

B. Requirements for Online Coursework

1. The workload required by the online course is equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional classroom setting;
2. The content of the online course is rigorous and aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, where appropriate;
3. The course engages students and has interactive components, which may include, but are not limited to, required interactions between students and their teachers, participation in online demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual labs;
4. The program of instruction for such online coursework is planned, ongoing and systematic;
5. The courses are:
 - a. taught by teachers who are certified in Connecticut or another state and have received training on teaching in an online environment, or
 - b. offered by institutions of higher education that are accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or regionally accredited; and

6. The principal has determined, in the principal's professional judgment, that, given the student's academic and disciplinary history, the student is appropriately suited to engage in online coursework.

C. Additional Requirements

Only students in grades 9-12 are eligible to receive credit toward high school graduation by taking online courses. Students who have been pre-approved shall receive such credit upon completing the online course and obtaining a passing grade.

Any expense incurred for taking an online course identified by the student and/or parent to supplement the District's curricular offerings shall be the responsibility of the student/parent and shall not be the responsibility of the Board.

II. REMOTE LEARNING

The Ansonia Public Schools reserves the right to authorize remote learning to students in grades nine through twelve in accordance with the requirements set forth below.

A. Definitions

"Remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model.

"Dual instruction" means the simultaneous instruction by a teacher to students in-person in the classroom and students engaged in remote learning.

B. Remote Learning Model

1. The remote learning programming must:
 - a. Articulate clear educational goals;
 - b. Clearly organize course offerings in a way that can be easily navigated by students, parents/guardians, teachers, administrators and other stakeholders;
 - c. Integrate quality instructional materials to enable and enrich student learning;
 - d. Regularly evaluate technology that supports the learning goals and enhances the learning experience;
 - e. Contain content that aligns with appropriate learning standards and includes provisions for both intervention and accelerated learning opportunities;
 - f. Provide opportunities for student-to-student and student-to-teacher interactions that support active learning;
 - g. Integrate research-based Universal Design for Learning (UDL); and
 - h. Comply with the Connecticut State Department of Education Standards for Remote Learning.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools or designee to develop administrative regulations as may be necessary and appropriate to implement this policy.

Legal References

Public Act No. 22-80, “An Act Concerning Childhood Mental and Physical Health Services in Schools”

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-4w

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221a

Connecticut State Department of Education, Standards for Remote Learning Grades 9-12 (February 2022), *available at*

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Remote-Learning-Commission/CT-Standards-for-Remote-Learning-Grades-9-12-FINAL.pdf>.

APPROVED: _____