



Title: **Independent Study**

Code: 118

Book: Policy Manual

Section: 100 Programs

Purpose

The Board will consider the approval of a course of independent study for a properly qualified student as recommended by the Superintendent in order that such students may:[\[1\]](#)

- extend the learning experience begun in the classroom;
- develop judgment and self-reliance in the conduct of their own learning experience;
- relate the school world to the world of work and learning around and beyond the school;
- draw upon community resources as well as school resources for their educational program;
- include a greater variety of learning experiences within their educational program;
- identify and explore an area of particular interest;
- set personal learning goals and work, with appropriate staff guidance, toward achieving them;
- learn to use various research tools; and

- learn to draw sound conclusions from research findings.

Authority

The Board shall approve each course of independent study and designate the number of credits toward graduation to be awarded upon successful completion of each such course, except that the Board reserves the right to assign no credit for such an approved course. Each such course of study must meet the requirements set down in applicable codes and regulations.[2]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the implementation of independent study which:

- develop specified, measurable, instructional objectives for each individually planned course of independent study;
- assure that each student conducts his/her study under appropriate staff guidance and supervision;
- monitor the progress of each student;
- certify the completion of each course of independent study based upon the original specified objective; and
- prepare recommendations for Board approval of courses of independent study.

Such recommendations shall include the qualifications of the student, the objectives established for the course, a description of the method of study and research to be undertaken, the staff members assigned to advise the project, the manner in which the project will be evaluated, and a proposal for the number of credits to be awarded for the course.

Qualifications

The Board directs that only those students shall be admitted to courses of independent study who have demonstrated academic proficiency, maturity of judgment, a strong motivation to learn, and self-reliance. Applicants shall be limited to students who have completed the tenth grade.

Courses of independent study need not be limited to participation by a single student but may involve more than one or a group of students, subject to Board approval.

Adopted: **October 21, 1981**

Legal References:

- [1. 24 P.S. 1512](#)
 - 2. 22 PA Code 5.222
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