Sec. 1. CREDIT BY EXAMINATION (WITH PRIOR INSTRUCTION)

The Principal (or a student's attendance committee, as applicable) has authority to offer a student in any of grades 6–12 credit for an academic subject in which the student had some prior instruction if the student scores 70% on a criterion-referenced test approved by the Board for the particular course. In order to obtain credit by examination with prior instruction, a student in any of grades 6–12 must also satisfy the following local requirements:

1. **Eligibility**
   - Applicable for students who have already received instruction (e.g., failed or partially completed a course) and wish to earn credit.
2. **Passing Score**
   - Must earn a minimum 70% on a board approved CBE to receive course credit.
3. **Exam Approval**
   - Exams must be approved by Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success ("RYSS") Board and aligned with Texas standards (TEKS), covering all assessable content.
4. **Testing Windows & Attempts**
   - Offer one testing window each quarter, with students allowed up to two attempts per course—no more than once per window.
5. **No Fees**
   - CBE with prior instruction is provided free of charge, as required by state law.
6. **Transcript & GPA Impact**
   - Upon passing, the examination score and credit are recorded on the student's transcript. Local policy determines how (or whether) it factors into GPA and class ranking.
7. **EOC Waiver**
   - Students who earn CBE-based credit do not need to take STAAR end-of-course (EOC) assessments in that subject.

Any criterion-referenced test approved by the Board shall assess the student's mastery of the essential knowledge and skills and shall be administered according to established RYSS procedures.

Prior to offering a student an opportunity to demonstrate mastery or earn credit by this method, an appropriate RYSS employee shall review the student's records to determine whether the student has had prior instruction in the subject or course.

19 TAC 74.24(c)(12).

Sec. 2. CREDIT BY EXAMINATION (WITHOUT PRIOR INSTRUCTION)

With Board approval, RYSS shall develop or purchase examinations for acceleration that thoroughly test the essential knowledge and skills for each primary school grade level and for

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credit for secondary school academic subjects.

a) *Kindergarten Acceleration*

The Board shall approve procedures developed by the Superintendent or designee (in accordance with State Board of Education ("SBOE") rules) to allow a child who is five years old at the beginning of the school year to be assigned initially to First Grade rather than Kindergarten. Criteria for acceleration may include:

1. Scores on readiness tests or achievement tests that may be administered by appropriate RYSS personnel.
2. Recommendation of the kindergarten or preschool the student has attended.
3. Chronological age and observed social and emotional development of the student.
4. Other criteria deemed appropriate by the Principal and Superintendent.

19 TAC 74.24(b)(1).

b) *Grade 1 through Grade 5*

The Board shall approve procedures developed by the Superintendent or designee (in accordance with SBOE rules) to accelerate a student in grades 1–5 one grade if the student meets the following requirements:

1. The student scores 80% or above on a criterion-referenced test for the grade level to be skipped in each of the following areas: language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies;
2. A RYSS representative recommends that the student accelerate; and
3. The student's parent gives written approval of the acceleration.

19 TAC 74.24(b)(2).

c) *Grade 6 through Grade 12*

RYSS shall give a student in grades 6–12 for an academic subject in which he or she has not had prior instruction if the student scores:

1. A three or higher on a College Board advanced placement examination that has been approved by the Board for the applicable course;
2. A scaled score of 50 or higher on an examination administered through the College-Level Examination Program and approved by the Board for the applicable course; or
3. 80% on any other criterion-referenced test approved by the Board for the applicable course.

19 TAC 74.24(c)(8).

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For each high school course, the Board shall approve at least four examinations that shall include College Board advanced placement examinations and examinations administered through the College-Level Examinations Program. The approved examinations may include those developed by:

1. Texas Tech University;
2. The University of Texas at Austin;
3. RYSS; or
4. Another entity if the assessment meets all requirements under 19 TAC 74.26(c)(2).

19 TAC 74.24(c)(1)-(2).

A student may not attempt to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course more than two times. If a student fails to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course before the beginning of the school year in which the student would ordinarily be required to enroll in that course in accordance with RYSS's prescribed course sequence, the student must satisfactorily complete the course to receive credit for the course.

19 TAC 74.24(c)(9)-(10).

d) *Fees*

RYSS shall not charge for a Board-approved examination for acceleration for each primary school grade level or for credit for secondary school academic subjects. If a parent requests an alternative examination, RYSS may administer and recognize results of a test purchased by the parent or student from Texas Tech University or the University of Texas at Austin.

19 TAC 74.24(a)(3).

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