

Instruction

Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Board of Education desires to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

With the active involvement of parents/guardians, administrators, teachers, and students, the Board shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for high school graduation. These alternative means shall be made available to students, parents/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

Students may fulfill any course requirement for graduation through the following:

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies (Education Code 51225.3)  
Opportunities to demonstrate skills and competencies shall include, but not be limited to, challenging a course through successful completion of a District-developed examination which covers course objectives. The District shall not use results from the General Educational Development test or other state or national tests for this purpose.
2. Supervised work experience or other outside school experience in accordance with Education Code 51760.3 and 5 CCR 1635 (Education Code 51225.3)
3. Career technical education classes offered in high schools
4. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs
5. Interdisciplinary study
6. Independent study
7. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution
8. Private instruction in accordance with 5 CCR 1631
9. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634 (Education Code 51440)
10. Correspondence instruction from a California university or college accredited for teacher training in accordance with 5 CCR 1633 (Education Code 51740-51741)
11. To satisfy the District's driver education and training requirement, 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

**BP 6146.11(b)**

12. For credit toward the District's physical education requirement, 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 (Education Code 51242)
13. For credit toward the District's foreign language requirement, foreign language studies successfully completed in a private school in accordance with 5 CCR 1632 (Education Code 51243)

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

51440 Veterans' education, evaluation and credit toward high school graduation

51740-51741 Authority to provide instruction by correspondence

51760-51769.5 Work experience education

Adopted: (12-92 3-08) 9-09

ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Orange, California