EQUIVALENCY CREDIT FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES

I.   Career and Technical Education Courses

Until September 1, 2021, the district will provide high school students with the opportunity to access at least one career and technical education course that is considered a statewide equivalency course as determined by the office of the superintendent of public instruction under RCW 28A.700.070. On or after September 1, 2021, any statewide equivalency course offered by the district or accessed at a skill center will be offered for academic credit. The district may also adopt local course equivalencies for career and technical education courses that are not on the list of courses approved by the superintendent of public instruction under RCW 28A.700.070. Each high school will adopt core academic course equivalencies for high school career and technical courses, provided that the career and technical course has been reviewed and approved for equivalency credit by a district team appointed by the superintendent or a designee.

The district team will include a school administrator, the career and technical administrator, an instructor from the core academic subject area, an instructor from the appropriate career and technical course, a school counselor, and a representative from the curriculum department.

Career and technical courses approved for equivalency will be:

1. Aligned with the state's essential academic learning requirements and grade level expectations; and

2. Aligned with current industry standards, as evidenced in the curriculum frameworks. The local career and technical advisory committee will certify that courses meet industry standards.

II.   Computer Science Courses

AP courses

The board will approve Advanced Placement (AP) computer science courses as equivalent to high school mathematics or science. The superintendent or designee will adopt procedures to denote on the student's transcript that AP computer science qualifies as a math-based quantitative course for students who complete it in their senior year.

Competency-based credits

The district may award academic credit for computer science to students based on student completion of a competency examination that is aligned with the state learning standards for computer science or mathematics and course equivalency requirements adopted by the office of the superintendent of public instruction (OSPI).

To receive competency-based credits for computer science, a student must take a competency examination that OSPI has found aligns with the state learning standards for computer science or mathematics and that aligns with course equivalency requirements adopted by OSPI. The number of credits awarded will be based on the student's performance on the competency examination.

The competency examination must be offered in a proctored setting with appropriate technology. The district will approve the site(s) where the examination is offered, which could include individual schools, district buildings, community colleges, universities, education service districts, or other community settings.

A student may take the examination [insert number] of times. The district will award credit based on the highest examination score.

The student will be responsible for the cost of taking a competency examination. The district will offer financial assistance to students who demonstrate need, such as qualifying for free or reduced lunch. [The district could pay for the cost of taking the examination for all students if it chooses.]

The district will receive official test results for each student who takes a competency examination. The district will provide a letter to the student with a copy of the test results and an indication of how many credits the student will be awarded. Credits awarded will be recorded on the student's transcript with a grade of "Pass."

In awarding academic credit for computer science, the district will follow the course equivalency approval procedure described above for career and technical courses.

Courses taken before attending high school

The district will award high school credit for computer science courses taken before attending high school if either of following occurs:

1. The course was taken with high school students, if the academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high school students enrolled in the class; or

2. The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for high school credit because the course is similar or equivalent to a course offered at a high school in the district determined by the board.

Students who have taken and successfully completed high school courses under the circumstances above shall not be required to take an additional competency examination or perform any other additional assignment to receive credit.

Cross References:	Board Policy 2170	Career and Technical Education
	Board Policy 2410	High School Graduation Requirements
Legal References:	RCW 28A.230.097	Career and technical high school course equivalencies.
	RCW 28A.230.120	High School Diplomas – Issuance- Option to receive final transcripts –Notice
	WAC 180-51	High school graduation requirements
	WAC 392-410	Courses of study and equivalencies

Management Resources: 2018 - May Issue

2013 - September Issue

Policy News, August 2006 Legislature Codifies Course
Equivalency for Career and Technical Courses

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