

IMPORTANT NOTICE: FURTHER REVISIONS TO THIS CASB SAMPLE POLICY WILL BE MADE ONCE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTS RULES PURSUANT TO HB 09-1319, "The Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act."

Postsecondary Options/Concurrent Enrollment

The Board believes that students who are capable of and wish to pursue college level work while in high school should be permitted to do so.

There are two options under state law available to high school students meeting specified criteria for post-secondary study. Any student participating in either of these programs shall be granted a high school diploma upon evidence of completion of the required academic work.

Postsecondary program

1. Eligibility

Any 11th or 12th grade student who is under the age of 21 shall be eligible to apply to an institution of higher education for enrollment through the post-secondary options program if he or she:

- a. is deemed by the student and parent/guardian on the advice of the principal to be in need of course work at a higher academic level than that available at school.
- b. is deemed by school personnel to show a high degree of maturity and responsibility, especially with regard to potential for completing post-secondary courses.
- c. is deemed by school personnel to be in need of a different environment.
- d. has given two months' written notice to the school district specifying the courses in which the student intends to enroll.

2. Academic credit

Academic credit granted for course work successfully completed by a student under this program shall count as high school credit toward graduation requirements unless credit is denied by the principal and the denial is upheld

by the superintendent and the Board of Education on the basis that such credit is inappropriate. An appeal procedure is provided in the event a student is denied high school credit. A student participating in this program shall still be considered as enrolled in the district and eligible for all high school activities.

The program is not available for summer school.

3. Agreement with institution

When a student enrolls in courses at an institution of higher education for high school credit, the school district and the participating institution shall enter into a written cooperative agreement which shall include, but not be limited to, the requirement that the student or parent/guardian shall be reimbursed by the district for the amount of tuition paid by the student or parent/guardian for the first two courses taken in any one academic term upon successful completion of the courses. The agreement shall include statements that any courses taken by students under this program also shall qualify as credit toward earning a degree or certificate at the institution of higher education.

4. Payment of tuition by student

Except as noted below, the student or parent/guardian shall be responsible for paying the tuition associated with postsecondary courses taken by the student. The school district shall reimburse the student or parent/guardian for tuition paid for the first two postsecondary courses taken by a student for high school credit in any one academic term upon receipt of proof that the student received a passing grade upon completion of the course. The district shall not reimburse the student or parent/guardian for tuition for courses not passed or for any courses in excess of one per academic term.

5. Payment of tuition by district

The district shall pay tuition for one course per academic term for any student who is eligible for a free or reduced cost lunch.

The district may pay tuition for one course per academic term for any student if the payment of tuition would constitute a financial hardship for the student or parent/guardian and the student has shown evidence of responsibility for and commitment to successfully completing postsecondary courses.

Prior to paying the tuition for any student, the district shall require the student and parent/guardian to sign a promise to repay the amount of tuition paid by the district on the student's behalf if the student fails or otherwise does not

complete the postsecondary course for any reason without consent of the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled. This agreement shall be enforced by the district and the student or parent/guardian shall be responsible for reimbursing the district as provided in the promise.

6. Transportation costs

The school district shall not provide or pay for transportation to the institution of higher education.

7. Notice to students and parents/guardians

Information about the post-secondary options program, including the appeals procedure if high school credit is denied, shall be distributed annually to all students in grades nine through 12 and to their parents/guardians. Notice shall be given to allow sufficient time for students and parents/guardians to consider this option.

8. Reports to State Board

The Board shall comply with all reporting requirements of the State Board of Education.

Fast track program

Any student who has completed the requirements for graduation may take one or more higher education courses during the senior year. The student shall remain eligible for sanctioned high school activities if meeting the academic and residency qualifications.

Tuition for higher education courses shall be paid by the district in accordance with the formula in law. The district shall not be responsible for the costs of transportation, room and board, fees, books or equipment.

(Aguilar RE-6:July 21, 2009)

LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. 22-35-101 *et seq.* (*Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act*)

[Revised June 2009]
COLORADO SAMPLE POLICY 1993©