

**Instruction****RECIPROCIITY OF ACADEMIC CREDIT**

To determine whether students transferring into the district have met district course requirements, the Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to evaluate the comparability of courses and/or students' understanding of course content. Such procedures shall include methods for determining the number of years of school attendance, the specific courses completed by the student, and the value of credits earned.

Transferring students shall be subject to the same standards and assessments required of other students in the district.

*(cf. 5118 - Transfers)*  
*(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)*  
*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*  
*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*  
*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*  
*(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)*  
*(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)*  
*(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)*

*Legal Reference:**EDUCATION CODE*

*35160 Authority of governing boards*  
*35160.1 Broad authority of school districts*  
*47612.5 Charter schools operations, general requirements*  
*51003 Statewide academic standards*  
*51225.3 Requirements for graduation*  
*51228 Minimum curriculum standards*  
*52017 Additional elements for secondary school plan*  
*60605 Academic content and performance standards; assessments*  
*60641-60647 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program*  
*CODE OF CALIFORNIA REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*  
*3070 Graduation*

**Instruction****RECEIPROCITY OF ACADEMIC CREDIT****Definitions**

An "accredited" school is one that has received accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) or other statewide or regional commissions or, in the case of a school outside California, by the equivalent governmental or other regional accrediting agency in that jurisdiction.

**Transfers from Accredited Schools**

Students transferring into the district from an accredited school shall receive full academic credit for previously completed courses when the sending district verifies that the student has satisfactorily completed those courses.

*(cf. 5118 - Transfers)*

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*

*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*

*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*

*(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)*

*(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)*

*(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)*

**Transfers from Non-Accredited Schools**

When a student transfers from any non-accredited private, public, alternative, home or charter school, academic credit shall be subject to approval by the principal or designee at the enrolling school. Credits transferred from these schools shall be fully accepted when there is evidence that the course work completed is equivalent to similar courses offered in this district.

*(cf. 0420.4 - Charter Schools)*

*(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools)*

The principal or designee at the enrolling school shall be responsible for determining which of the student's credits are equivalent to district requirements. Guidelines for determining equivalency shall be developed by representative certificated staff familiar with the district's academic standards and graduation requirements.

In determining equivalency, the principal and/or designated certificated staff representative shall consider one or more of the following:

1. A review of the description of academic content and time requirements of the course work completed by the student compared to academic content and time requirements at the enrolling school
2. An examination of the student's portfolio of work, papers, completed projects, graded tests or other documents demonstrating the student's level of skill and knowledge

**Instruction**

**RECEIPROCITY OF ACADEMIC CREDIT (continued)**

*(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)*  
*(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)*

3. An opportunity for the student to demonstrate skill by his/her performance on appropriate course-challenging examinations, comprehensive final examinations and/or other culminating exercises used at the enrolling school

*(cf. 6155 - Challenging Courses by Examination)*

**Appeals/Due Process**

If a student's parent/guardian disagrees with the school site staff's judgment on grade-level placement, course placement and/or equivalency of academic credit, the parent/guardian may appeal to the Superintendent or designee.

Within 10 working days of notification of placement or credit determination, the parent/guardian may request, in writing, a conference with the Superintendent or designee to review the school site staff's decision.

The Superintendent or designee shall schedule a conference within 10 working days of the parent/guardian's request. This meeting may include the principal or designee, representatives of the school's certificated staff, and the student's parents/guardian. It shall be the parent/guardian's responsibility to present evidence that the facts do not support the school staff's decision on the student's placement and/or transferability of prior credits.

The Superintendent or designee's decision shall be final.