

Marion County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Alternative Credit Options	Descriptor Code: 4.209	Issued Date: 05/20/03
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students may earn credit through the following means.

2 3 **CORRESPONDENCE COURSES¹**

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5 High school students may earn, through correspondence, a maximum of three (3) units of academic credit
6 to be applied toward graduation requirements. Only two (2) units may be earned during any one (1) school
7 year. Only courses offered by agencies and institutions recognized by the Board will be accepted. The
8 express approval of the principal/designee shall be obtained before the course is taken. The principal/
9 designee and the student will agree on a reasonable date for completion of the correspondence course(s).
10 The student shall not be allowed credit if the course is not completed by the agreed date. An official record
11 of the final grade must be received by the school before a diploma may be issued to the student. Under
12 ordinary circumstances, students or their parents/guardians shall pay for approved correspondence courses
13 the student chooses to take.

14 15 **VIRTUAL/ON-LINE COURSES**

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17 High school students may also earn a maximum of three (3) units of academic credit to be applied toward
18 graduation requirements by completing on-line courses offered through agencies approved by the Board.
19 Credit from an on-line or virtual course may be earned only in the following circumstances:

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21 1. The course is not offered at the high school;
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23 2. Although the course is offered at the high school, the student will not be able take it due
24 to an unavoidable scheduling conflict;
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26 3. The course will serve as a supplement to extend homebound instruction;
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28 4. The student has been expelled from a regular school setting, but educational services are
29 to be continued; or
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31 5. The principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents/guardians, determines
32 the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.
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34 6. Students taking such courses must be enrolled in the district and take the courses during
35 the regular school day on the school web site.

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37 As determined by board policy, students applying for permission to take a virtual course shall complete
38 prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the ma-
39 turity level needed to function effectively in an online learning environment. In addition, the express
40 approval of the principal/designee shall be obtained before a student enrolls in a virtual course. The school
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1 must receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.
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3 The tuition fee for a virtual course shall be borne by the high school for students enrolled full-time. The
4 Board shall pay the fee for expelled students who are permitted to take virtual courses in alternative
5 settings.
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7 Through a supervision plan, the school shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and
8 monitoring of students taking virtual courses.
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Legal Reference:

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