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Recommended Guidelines For Earning Units of Credit Without Completing Units of Study Keeping in Compliance with Commissioner's Regulations 100.5 (d)

A student may earn a maximum of 6.5 units of credit for either a Regents or Local Diploma without completing units of study for such units of credit. Any out-of-school testing or tuition programs to achieve high school credit shall be at the expense of the parents/guardians.

The Principal's Committee (composed of at least the principal, applicant, parents/guardians, Director of Guidance and appropriate teachers) will decide upon appropriate alternatives based upon the applicant's previous academic performance. This will determine the student's ability to benefit from any alternative educational program.

The student applicant will petition the high school principal by filing an application no later than 20 weeks or a semester before beginning the program of alternative education.

These decisions are subject to appeal by presenting complaints in writing to the Superintendent or Board of Education within 30 days of the decision.

Basic requirements for earning alternative credit:

- A) The applicant must be approved by the Principal's Committee and an agreement signed by the applicant, parent/guardian, principal, and Director of Guidance.
- B) The applicant's attendance in school will be for no less than 85% of the school year before application.
- C) The applicant shall have earned a course or grade mark of 92 in the previous 20 weeks in the same subject area and should have achieved at least 85 on any prior Regents or state proficiency exam in that or a related subject area.
- D) The student will pass an oral examination which demonstrates proficiency as determined by the principal, or successfully complete a special project in the subject area. A student seeking credit in a lab science course must complete all lab requirements prior to the exam.
- E) Music and/or art credit may be awarded through participation in a major school-sponsored performing group program and/or, in exceptional situations in an advanced out-of-school art or music activity when given prior approval by the teachers and principal.
- F) High school credit may be awarded by completing college credit courses at any accredited college or university.