

ONLINE/VIRTUAL EDUCATION

The Board may allow video-based, internet-based, and online courses as a means to fulfill curriculum requirements. Such opportunities will be implemented under the provisions set forth in *Policy IHBH, Extended Learning Opportunities*.

Only students approved by the school principal or designee shall be eligible to receive credit for distance education/on-line courses.

The written approval of the building principal or designee and a minor student's parent/guardian is required before a district student enrolls in an online or virtual course that is intended to become part of his/her educational program. Students applying for permission to take an online course must complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm that the student possesses the skill set needed to function effectively in an online learning environment.

Approved courses must align with state and local standards, be delivered by staff licensed in the state where the course originates from, and contain provisions for feedback and monitoring of student progress. The district will require a syllabus, including prerequisites, specific learning goals/activities, student evaluation criteria, and teacher responsibilities to be submitted for review before the course is approved as part of the student's educational program.

Students taking approved online courses must be enrolled in the district and must take the courses during the regular school day at the school site, unless the administration has granted approval for remote access based on special circumstances.

The principal will assign a teacher or teachers to monitor student progress, grading of assignments, and testing.

Approved online/virtual courses must comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video. Confidentiality of Student Record Information will be maintained throughout the process. This includes information shared between school district representatives and the virtual school or online teacher, information shared between the school district or online teacher with students and parents, and information shared between school district representatives, the virtual school or online teacher with others.

The school district will provide safeguards for students participating in online instruction activities, and *Policy EGA or IJNDB, Internet Access for Students*, will apply.

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(continued)

Students earning credit for distance education courses shall participate in all assessments required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program. Credit courses will require students to meet similar academic standards as required by the District.

Credit for the course will not be recognized until an official record of the final grade has been received from the online teacher and approved by the principal or designee.

Reasonable limits will be placed on the number of approved online/virtual education opportunities that can be administered each school year, school-wide, and per student in each academic year as well as over the period of four academic years.

Students who violate any part of the policy or engage in any other activity that school authorities consider inappropriate are subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board policies and the student handbook.

Legal Reference:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(a)(12), Distance Education
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.22, Distance Education
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.27(q), High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements, and Co-curricular Program

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