POSTSECONDARY OPTIONS/CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

The Board believes that students are capable of and can pursue college level work while in high school and should be permitted to do so. Accordingly, the district provides simultaneous opportunities for high school and postsecondary course credit.

Students participating in this program shall still be considered as enrolled in the district and eligible for all high school activities at their high school of enrollment as long as they meet the requirements of the Colorado High School Activities Association.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy and accompanying regulation, the following definitions shall apply.

"Concurrent enrollment" means the simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in a district high school and in one or more postsecondary courses at an institution of higher education.

"Qualified student" means a person who is less than 21 years of age and is enrolled in ninth grade or higher grade level.

"Postsecondary course" means a course offered by an institution of higher education and includes coursework resulting in the acquisition of a certificate; an associate degree of applied sciences, general studies, arts, or science; and all baccalaureate degree programs.

"Institution of higher education" means:

a. A state university or college, community college, junior college, or area vocational school as described in title 23, C.R.S.;

b. A postsecondary career and technical education program that offers postsecondary courses and is approved by the state board for community colleges and occupational education pursuant to applicable state law; and

c. An educational institution operating in Colorado that meets the Act’s specified criteria.

Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act

The Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act enables qualified students to enroll in postsecondary courses at institutions of higher education and receive simultaneous high school and college credit for successfully completed courses. A qualified student enrolled in high school who has applied to and received approval from the district or school designee, an institute charter school and has received approval from the charter schools’ chief administrator, may register with and concurrently enroll in an institution of higher education in accordance with the provisions of this article.

Subject to the availability of budgeted and appropriated funds, the district will pay the tuition of up to two courses per academic semester for each qualified student.

Students who wish to pursue more than two courses per academic semester, may do so by adhering to the following steps:

1. Meet with their high school counselor/ district concurrent enrollment coordinator and fill

   Thompson School District R2-J, Loveland, Colorado

Page 1 of 2
out an application requesting enrollment in additional postsecondary courses.

2. Submit the application form to the district concurrent enrollment coordinator the semester prior to the commencement of the postsecondary course(s) in which the student seeks to enroll.

3. Await a decision within 2 school days by the district concurrent enrollment coordinator and the director of secondary education.
   a. The decision will be made based on the student’s past academic performance, the student’s attendance, and recommendations from the school counseling staff.

Grade placement for home-schooled students will be determined by the Home School Administrator.

The district shall not be responsible for the costs of student fees, books, transportation, etc.

With the exception of the Career Pathways Program, the district shall not provide or pay for the qualified student’s transportation to the institution of higher education.

Information about the postsecondary enrollment options, shall be distributed annually to all students in grades nine through twelve and to their parents or guardians.

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

**Accelerating Students Through Concurrent Enrollment (ASCENT)**

District students have the opportunity to apply and participate in the ASCENT program, which is designed to increase the percentage of students who participate in postsecondary education, especially among low income and traditionally underserved populations. However, all students that are interested are encouraged to apply for the program.

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Adopted March 20, 1991
Revised December 9, 1992
Revised March 2, 1994
Revised December 6, 1995
Revised July 8, 1998
Revised November 28, 2018

Legal ref: CRS 22-35-101 et. seq.
1 CCR 301-86, State Board of Education rules regarding the Administration of the Concurrent Enrollment Program
CRS 22-25-104 (1)(a)
CRS 22-35-108 (1) (a) (I)

Cross ref: IKF, Graduation Requirements
IHCDA-R Postsecondary options Regulation