

DUAL ENROLLMENT

PURPOSE:

The Dual Enrollment Policy is designed to support the enrollment of North Kingstown High School students in courses designed to provide an early college experience, with the opportunity to earn college credit(s). This Policy fulfills the requirements of R.I.G.L. 16-100-3(a) and 16-100-4.

PHILOSOPHY:

The School Committee affirms that students should have access to personalized learning experiences that are experiential, blended, flexible, and differentiated. As a result of these experiences, students will have greater ability to control the pace, place, and content of their learning experiences while meeting state and local requirements. The School Committee recognizes that some high school students are ready and capable of enrolling in courses designed to provide an early college experience and therefore should have access to a wide range of high quality early college and career training programs that enable them to earn high-value, portable credit and credentials.

POLICY STATEMENT

Definitions:

Concurrent Enrollment: A student is enrolled in a college level course that is offered at the secondary school and taught by a secondary school teacher who may be approved by the post-secondary institution(s). Courses in which the potential is available to earn postsecondary credit, such as Advance Placement and career and technical center programs of study in which articulation agreements are available, are included.

Dual Enrollment: A student is enrolled in a secondary school while simultaneously enrolled part-time or full-time as a non-matriculating student at a postsecondary institution, such as a community college, college, or university. Enrollment may be completed outside school hours and the traditional school day.

Early College Enrollment: A senior who is accepted and enrolls as a postsecondary full-time student in a degree program may substitute that program for his/her senior year.

Postsecondary Institution: R.I. accredited public and private institutions of higher education and selected out of state institutions of higher education accredited by any nationally recognized accrediting agencies that the United States' Secretary of Education or the R.I. Commissioner of Education has determined to be reliable authorities as to the quality of education or training provided by those institutions of higher education and the higher education programs they accredit.

Eligibility

All students are eligible to participate in early college, dual and concurrent enrollment courses, given the availability of space. Specific prerequisite courses are identified in the Program of Studies. The approval of the principal may be denied or withdrawn when (1) a student is not on-track to graduate on-time benchmarks, (2) a student's aggregate GPA falls below 3.0, (3) a student's conduct negatively impacts his/her achievement, and (4) a student violates the Attendance Policy for concurrent enrollment courses or fails to show adequate progress for dual or early college enrollment courses.

Recognizing that concurrent, dual, or early college enrollment coursework may not easily align with the comprehensive course assessment/anchor assignment framework offered in North Kingstown high school courses, the school administration will work with the student to identify concurrent, dual, or early college enrollment course assignments to count toward the student's anchor assignment requirements or offer alternative methods to satisfy the anchor assignment if necessary.

Grading

Course Credit and Accommodations Grading for concurrent enrollment courses will be in accord with the Secondary Grading Policy.

Grading for dual enrollment and early college enrollment courses will be in accord with that of the postsecondary institution. A record of courses and grades will be included on the student transcript. All earned credits will count toward a North Kingstown High School Diploma. The credit and grade will appear on the student transcript. It will not be calculated into the GPA or rank as guided by the Program of Studies. A student may be granted an exception to have their grade included in the GPA or rank by requesting an evaluation of their course on a case by case basis. A student must submit a completed application to the Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning and provide evidence of the course rigor to be reviewed. All applications for GPA or rank inclusion must be made no later than the post-secondary withdrawal date and once approved may not be withdrawn. The weighting will be established consistent with the same or similar courses within the Program of Studies. If no similar course is established, the weight will be set by the Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning.

While enrolled in post-secondary classes the District will not be responsible for providing any accommodations that would otherwise be required to be provided by the post-secondary institution or the District.

Financial Responsibility

Unless specifically provided in the North Kingstown School District budget, costs associated with dual enrollment courses are the responsibility of students and their families. Parents may apply for textbook reimbursement upon the following conditions:

- a. Books are returned in good condition for the district's re-use;
- b. A receipt is attached to the reimbursement form;
- c. A transcript is attached indicating the successful completion of the course.

The availability of funding from the State of Rhode Island may or may not be available to defray these costs. The District will ensure the participation of students receiving a free lunch by providing assistance in identifying funding sources. The District will not provide transportation to postsecondary institutions. A student who has otherwise completed his or her high school graduation requirements may not continue to enroll as a student in the District by participating in programs detailed in this policy.

Students and their families bear all responsibility for any costs associated with loss of eligibility under these programs.

North Kingstown School District shall support the cost of students who are approved to enroll full-time in a dual enrollment program at the Community College as part of their high school experience. Approval will be based on a timely application and admittance by CCRI based on their entrance requirements to the Running Start program.

No low-income student shall be denied access to concurrent or dual enrollment coursework on their inability to pay course related fees.

Communication

The North Kingstown School District will support students' access to and participation in early college, dual, and concurrent enrollment courses. The high school administration will publish opportunities and guidelines, including potential benefits and consequences, for the participation of students in early college, dual and concurrent enrollment courses in the Program of Studies, NKHS student handbook, and on the NKHS webpage. The administration will ensure guidance counselors discuss concurrent, dual, and early college enrollment opportunities and guidelines with all students prior to their junior and senior years.

Implementation

The Superintendent is authorized to adopt, with committee approval, implementing procedures as required to implement this policy. The Superintendent shall make an annual report to the committee to include, but not limited to, the number of students enrolled in these programs, the progress and success rate of enrolled students, and efforts of the district to provide opportunities and support student participation in these programs.

Adopted: 6/23/2015

Amended: 1/12/16; 8/15/18