

# SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## *POLICY*

Section:	6000 Instruction	Office Responsible:	Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Policy:	6116 Options for Awarding Credits Towards Graduation		
Related Policies:	N/A	Administrative Procedures:	6116: Options for Awarding Credit Toward Graduation

### **I. Purpose**

Provide options for students to earn non-traditional credits toward graduation.

### **II. Authority**

Policies and procedures are updated and adherent to *14 DE Reg. §505 and 506*

### **III. Definitions**

The following words and terms shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Career Pathway" means the three (3) credits of pre-planned and sequential courses required for graduation designed to develop knowledge and skills in a particular career or academic area.

"Credit" means the acquisition of skills and knowledge at a satisfactory level as determined by the district and charter school boards through 135 hours (a Carnegie Unit) of actual classroom instruction, which may include various methods of delivery or through locally approved options contained in DE Code, Title 14, Section 8.0.

### **IV. Policy Statement**

Listed below is Smyrna High School's specific policy for awarding credit toward high school graduation. In all cases listed, the option or options selected shall incorporate the appropriate state content standards and performance indicators, as listed in 14 DE Admin. Code 505, Section 8.0.

#### **1. Courses taken at or through an accredited community college, two- or four-year college. Course credits and weights are determined through an articulation agreement with the college(s).**

- a. Smyrna High School offers students the opportunity to enroll in dual credit courses. The course may be taken at Smyrna High School or at a postsecondary institution campus. Dual enrollment courses include Advanced Placement (AP).

#### **2. Voluntary community service as defined in 14 Del.C.8901A and 8902A.**

- a. Students may earn one credit by participating in the Delaware Volunteer Credit.

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**3. Supervised work-based learning in the school and the community which meets the educational objectives or special career interest of the individual student.**

- a. Students may participate in a supervised work-based learning experience as approved by the Smyrna High School principal or principal's designee.
- b. Students must complete a minimum of 135 hours to receive one credit.
  - i. Students may be awarded partial credit based on the completion of a reduced number of hours, aligned coursework, and approval by the Smyrna High School principal or their designee.

**4. Supervised summer work-based learning in community which meets the educational objectives or special career interest of the individual student.**

- a. Students may participate in a supervised summer work-based learning experience as approved by the Smyrna High School principal or principal's designee.
- b. Students may earn 1/3 credit during each summer between their 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. Summer work before beginning 9<sup>th</sup> grade or after completing 12<sup>th</sup> grade will not be considered.
- c. Students will earn up to 1/3 credit per summer, with documentation of 100 approved hours worked each summer.

**5. Distance learning courses. These courses may be delivered by the teacher to the learner in real time, online or by video.**

- a. Request for Distance Learning Courses will be reviewed on an individual basis and must be approved by the Smyrna High School principal.

**6. High school courses taken while in the middle school in conjunction with an articulated agreement between the district middle school and the district high school(s). Such credit shall also transfer to a high school in another district or to a charter school.**

**7. Course credit transferred from another high school.**

- a. All courses and credits are transferred as recorded on official documents received directly from the previous school. The information becomes a part of the student's Smyrna High School transcript.

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**8. Course credit earned through summer or evening school classes, as a member of the military service or as part of the James H. Groves Adult High School.**

**9. Tutoring programs taught by a teacher certified in the subject being taught.**

a. A student may make up work toward graduation through a special tutoring program.

b. The Smyrna High School principal shall ascertain that the tutoring program meets the state standards and that the program presentation is comparable to that of the high school that is to grant the units of credit.

**10. Course credit awarded by agencies or instrumentalities of the state other than public schools which provide educational services to students. A description of the program provided to the student, grades given, and the number of clock hours of instruction or a demonstration of competency must be provided to the school district or charter school prior to receipt of credit.**

**11. Courses taught by a teacher certified in the subject being taught and credit earned upon demonstration of mastery of the competencies of the particular course.**

**Board Approval Acknowledged by:**



Christine Malec, President

Smyrna School District Board of Education

## **Policy Actions**

Adopted: 04/19/2000

Revised: 08/18/2004

04/08/2009

12/14/2016

11/20/2024

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