

# Palm Springs USD

## Board Policy

### Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

BP 6146.11

#### Instruction

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Board of Education desires to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

With the active involvement of parents/guardians, administrators, teachers and students, the Board shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for high school graduation. These alternative means shall be made available to students, parents/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Students may fulfill any course requirements for graduation through the following:

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies (Education Code 51225.3)

Opportunities to demonstrate skills and competencies shall include, but not be limited to, challenging a course through successful completion of a district-developed examination which covers course objectives. The district shall not use results from the General Educational Development test or other state or national tests for this purpose.

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

(cf. 6155 - Challenging Courses by Examinations)

2. Supervised work experience or other outside school experience, in accordance with Education Code 51760.3 and 5 CCR 1635 (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6178.1 - Work Experience Education)

3. Career technical education classes offered in high schools (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

4. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

5. Interdisciplinary study (Education Code 51225.3)

6. Independent study (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

7. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution (Education Code 48800, 51225.3)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

8. Private instruction in accordance with 5 CCR 1631

9. Correspondence instruction from a California university or college accredited for teacher training in accordance with 5 CCR 1633 (Education Code 51740-51741)

10. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634

11. To satisfy the district's driver education and training requirement, a program approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles which offers driver education and behind-the-wheel instruction through a driving school or licensed independent driving instructor in accordance with Vehicle Code 12814.6

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

12. For credit toward the district's physical education requirement, participation in district interscholastic athletic programs carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours (Education Code 51242)

A student shall be eligible to satisfy graduation requirements in this manner only if the interscholastic program entails a comparable amount of time and physical activity.

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

13. For credit toward the district's foreign language requirement, foreign language studies successfully completed in a private school in accordance with 5 CCR 1632

Upon receiving advance, written application by the student or his/her parent/guardian, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether completion of the proposed alternative means would satisfy course requirements for graduation and what documentation shall be required, if any, to verify the student's successful completion. The Superintendent or designee shall make the final determination as to whether the student's completion of an alternative means is sufficient to satisfy the district's graduation requirements.

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall determine the grade to be assigned to students for the completion of any of the above alternative means. When a grade is assigned by a private school, postsecondary institution, or other educational institution for completion of coursework, that same grade shall be awarded by the district provided that the Superintendent or designee has determined the alternative course to be substantially equivalent to a district course.

cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

48645.5 Course credit, juvenile court schools

48800-48802 Attendance at community college; advanced education

51220 Areas of study; grades 7-12

51225.3 Requirements for graduation

51241-51246 Exemptions from requirements  
51440 Veteran's education, evaluation and credit toward high school graduation  
51740-51741 Authority to provide instruction by correspondence  
51760-51769.5 Work experience education  
VEHICLE CODE  
12814.6 Teen driver's act  
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5  
1600-1635 Alternative credit

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Policy PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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