

Approved: May 3, 2007

Credit Evaluation Standards and Guidelines Policy for North Star Academy

Purpose and Philosophy: To insure equity and fairness to all students when evaluating credit earned at institutions other than North Star Academy (NSA), and to be in compliance with Utah State Rule R277-705-3.

Transfer of credit

1. NSA shall accept student credit and grades at face value from public schools accredited by Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS) and by regional or third party accrediting associations recognized by NAAS.
2. NSA shall accept student credit at face value from a nonpublic school if the school was evaluated by NAAS consistent with credit approval criteria as outlined by Utah Administrative Rule R277-410-4.
3. The Northwest accreditation standards provided in Utah Administrative Rule R277-413 are applicable to public junior high and middle schools in their entirety if the schools include 9th grade.
4. Requests for acceptance of credit from a school that is not accredited, or an accredited school that did not satisfy all criteria of Utah Administrative Rules R277-410-4B, will be referred to the Credit Evaluation Committee for credit determination.

The NSA Credit Evaluation Committee findings will be based on the following forms of evidence:

1. Course title and description
 2. List of instructional materials used
 3. Student achievement (progress)
 - i. Formative evaluations (sample)
 - ii. Summative evaluations (sample)
 4. Correlation of course objectives with the Utah State Core Curriculum standards and objectives
 5. Course length and student attendance
 - i. Number of days the class met
 - ii. Normal class length
 - iii. Number of classes attended by the student
 6. Grading criteria used
 7. Teacher name, qualifications, certifications, endorsements, etc.
 8. Course requirements for credit (representative sample of student work)
 9. Copy of student records
5. In addition to the forms of evidence, listed above, students seeking credit may be required to demonstrate competency through end-of-level testing approved by NSA in areas where competency tests are available.
 6. NSA will have the final decision-making authority for the awarding of credit and grades from non-accredited sources consistent with state law and due process.
 7. Costs associated with the determination of credit, including competency level testing, will be borne by the parent/guardian of the student requesting credit consideration.
 8. Students released for home instruction do not earn NSA credits. If students re-enter NSA, requests for credit for home instruction studies will be evaluated under the provisions of this policy.