

Hardeman County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Alternative Credit Options	Descriptor Code: 4.209	Issued Date: 03/11/10
		Rescinds: 4.209	Issued: 03/15/01

1 In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students may earn credit through the following
2 means.

3 4 **CORRESPONDENCE COURSES¹**

5
6 High school students may earn, through correspondence, a maximum of three (3) units of academic
7 credit to be applied toward graduation requirements. Only two (2) units may be earned during any one
8 (1) school year. Only courses offered by agencies and institutions recognized by the Board will be ac-
9 cepted. The express approval of the principal/designee shall be obtained before the course is taken. The
10 principal/designee and the student will agree on a reasonable date for completion of the correspondence
11 course(s). The student shall not be allowed credit if the course is not completed by the agreed date.
12 An official record of the final grade must be received by the school before a diploma may be issued to
13 the student. Under ordinary circumstances, students or their parents/guardians shall pay for approved
14 correspondence courses the student chooses to take.

15 16 **VIRTUAL/ON-LINE COURSES**

17
18 High school students may also earn academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by
19 completing on-line courses offered through the Hardeman County School System or by agencies ap-
20 proved by the Board.

21
22 Credit from an on-line or virtual course may be earned only in the following circumstances:

- 23
24 1. The course is not offered at the high school;
- 25
26 2. Although the course is offered at the high school, the student will not be able take it due
27 to an unavoidable scheduling conflict;
- 28
29 3. The course will serve as a supplement to extend homebound instruction;
- 30
31 4. The student has been expelled from a regular school setting, but educational services are
32 to be continued; or
- 33
34 5. The principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents/guardians, determines
35 the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.
- 36
37 6. Students taking such courses must be enrolled in the district and take the courses during
38 the regular school day on the school web site.
- 39
40
41

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49

As determined by board policy, students applying for permission to take a virtual course shall complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in an online learning environment. In addition, the express approval of the principal/designee shall be obtained before a student enrolls in a virtual course. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.

The tuition fee for any online or virtual course not offered through the Hardeman County School System shall be borne by the students enrolled in the course. The Board shall not pay the fee for expelled students who are permitted to take virtual courses in alternative settings not offered through the Hardeman County School System.

Through a supervision plan, the school shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and monitoring of students taking virtual courses.

Legal Reference:
1. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.03(8)