

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS FOR PRE-HIGH SCHOOL

Students of the school unit are to be offered a varied academic program which attempts to meet their intellectual and developmental needs. Students should have the opportunity to pursue the most challenging and rigorous courses for which their interests and capabilities qualify them. In order to encourage such study, when appropriate, students below grade nine may take high school level courses in pre-high school for credit toward graduation. This is not intended to foster early graduations for students for whom it is not appropriate, nor is it to encourage pupils to take less meaningful coursework later in their high school careers.

Students who have not yet reached grade nine may be considered for enrollment in high-school level courses for credit provided the following criteria for the course are met:

- A. The program is developed jointly by pre-high school and high school personnel;
- B. The course content, resources, expectations, standards, and assessments used in the pre-high school meet requirements of the Maine Department of Education;
- C. The course is taught by a properly certified teacher;
- D. Parents, Principals and teachers evaluate each student's academic ability, maturity, and level of responsibility in order to recommend and/or grant permission for the student to take the high-school level course(s);
- E. The granting of credit is part of a planned school unit educational program approved in advance by the Commissioner of Education; and
- F. Any permission is consistent with the philosophy and intent of this policy.

Students who take advantage of this credit will be encouraged to pursue equally challenging course work throughout their high school careers.

Legal Reference: Ch. 127 § 7.02(B) (Me. Dept. of Ed. Rules)

Cross Reference: IKF - Graduation Requirements  
IKFA - Early Graduation

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