

Case Situation 5-xx

What are the options for the use of online courses, credit recovery, or other non-traditional courses to be used to obtain eligibility under Bylaw 5, Sec. 1 (Proper Grade Level), Sec. 2 (One-time reinstatement) or Sec. 3 (Continual Progress)?

Bylaw 5, Sec. 1 is solely determined on the first day of school for the student body by examining the number of credits that have been recorded to the transcript. That number includes any full credit awarded and recorded in compliance with all applicable state regulations. Therefore, any type of credit, regardless of the method in which it is earned, may be used for this standard, but must be officially recorded on the student's permanent record (transcript) on or before the first day of school for the student body.

Bylaw 5, Sec. 2 is an opportunity to reinstate eligibility on a one-time basis for those students who do not meet the standards of Sec. 1. Any credit or course used to meet this standard must meet the following criteria:

1. Courses that are taught through distance learning, online, credit recovery, etc. need to be comparable in length, content and rigor to courses taught in a traditional classroom setting;
2. Students may not skip lessons or test out of modules. For example, if a student is permitted to test out of portions of a repeated course, is exempted from certain modules, or is allowed to finish the course in an abbreviated time frame, such a course would not be acceptable for use in the reinstatement determination;
3. The instructor and the student shall have ongoing access to, and regular interaction with, one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;
4. The student's work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) shall be made available for evaluation and validation upon request;
5. Evaluation of the student's work shall be conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies;
6. The course shall include a defined time period for completion and comparable to the same credit taught within the traditional school day;
7. The course must be acceptable for any student and school's policies for such courses must be followed consistently for both student-athletes and non-athletes with no exceptions made for student-athletes;
8. The course must be substantially comparable, qualitatively and quantitatively (e.g., content, textbook, assessments, duration), to the course in the mainstream or regular curriculum; and
9. The course credit must be recorded on the student transcript prior to the day before the defined Sec. 2 period for which reinstatement is desired (subsequent trimester, semester or school year dependent upon school defined curriculum).

Bylaw 5, Sec. 3 is the requirement for measuring continual progress for a student during the school year. Only those courses that are taught with a comparable course length, comprehensive content and rigor when compared to courses taught in a traditional classroom setting may be included in the calculation of the four hour requirement.