



DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES

The Board recognizes that alternative means of course delivery may be beneficial in certain situations. The preferred order is direct instruction, IITV, Web-based, Teacher Mediated, and Independent Study Option.

The School Division will usually reimburse the student for the costs of an Independent Study Option Course provided that it had been approved by the Principal, and upon proof of successful completion of the course being submitted to the Board Office. The Principal will usually approve a course:

- if there is a valid timetable conflict for the student;
- if it is not offered by the school, but is being offered elsewhere;
- if a genuine and specific interest in the course is demonstrated by the student;
- if for medical reasons, a student is projected to miss too much school time;
- if a student is expelled from the school. See IFJ-E

The following will usually disqualify reimbursement:

- the student does not receive a passing grade for the course;
- the student has previously failed the course in school;
- there is, in the Principal's opinion, a viable timetable option;
- the course is not completed within an established timeline.

To be successful in an online class, a student must be a 'self-starter' with a strong sense of direction and the ability to set goals and follow through. A successful online student can work independently, stay on task, and maintain a regular schedule of logging on and keeping up with the reading, course assignments, homework, and other expectations. The content of online courses is generally as rigorous or as difficult as that found in face-to-face classroom courses.

Regulations:

1. In conjunction with the Guidance Counselor/Resource Teacher, the Principal of the receiving school must approve all applicants.
2. Each course taken will have a completion schedule outlined by school personnel in conjunction with the delivering Teacher and followed by the student. Exceptions may be made under extenuating circumstances. In that case the School Principal must approve any schedule changes.
3. If a provider outside the boundaries of the Division delivers a course, the remote provider's regulations and fees, will apply. The Division will initiate efforts to partner with other divisions to waive fees or provide a reciprocal agreement.
4. Receiving schools will identify a school-based mentor. The role of the mentor may range from monitoring the work and progress of the student, to a content or topic 'specialist' who can provide guidance, assistance, and technical support.



File IFJ

5. All students/parents/guardians must read and sign the Divisional Acceptable Use Regulation (IGA-R) prior to enrolment. It is understood that when students take a course from a provider outside the Division, the divisional AUP will still apply.

See also: IGA Internet Access/Acceptable Use