

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to recognize and govern on-line learning options of students enrolled in the school district for purposes of compulsory attendance.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The school district shall not prohibit an enrolled student from applying to enroll in on-line learning.
- B. The school district shall grant academic credit for completing the requirements of an on-line learning course or program.
- C. The school district shall allow an on-line learning student to have the same access to the computer hardware and education software available in the school district as all other students in the school district.
- D. The school district shall continue to provide non-academic services to on-line learning students.
- E. On-line learning students may participate in the extracurricular activities of the school district on the same basis as other enrolled students.
- F. A student with a disability may enroll in an on-line learning course or program if the student's IEP team determines that on-line learning is appropriate education for the student.

*[Note: The school district may itself offer on-line learning. If it does, it is subject to numerous reporting and review requirements but may also be eligible for state funding. To the extent on-line learning is offered by the school district to its enrolled students, it is not subject to the Department of Education reporting or review requirements and cannot generate on-line learning funds. See Minn. Stat. § 124D.095, Subd. 4(c).]*

**III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. "On-line learning" is an interactive course or program that delivers instruction to a student by computer, is combined with other traditional delivery methods that include frequent student assessment and may include actual teacher contact time, and meets or exceeds state academic standards.
- B. "On-line learning student" is a student enrolled in the school district for purposes of compulsory attendance and enrolled in an on-line learning course or program delivered by an authorized provider.

- C. “On-line learning provider” is another school district, or an organization of two or more school districts operating under a joint powers agreement, or a charter school located in Minnesota that provides on-line learning to students.

#### **IV. PROCEDURES**

##### **A. Dissemination and Receipt of Information**

1. The school district shall make available information about on-line learning to all interested people. The school district may utilize the list of approved on-line learning providers and on-line learning courses and programs developed, published, and maintained by the Minnesota Department of Education.
2. The school district will receive and maintain information provided to it by on-line learning providers.

##### **B. Students**

1. A student may apply to an on-line learning provider to enroll in on-line learning. The student must have the written consent of a parent or guardian to do so if the student is under eighteen (18) years of age.
2. An on-line learning student must notify the school district at least thirty (30) days before taking an on-line learning course or program if the school district is not providing the on-line learning.
3. An on-line learning provider will notify the school district and the student within ten (10) days of acceptance of the student’s on-line learning course or program and hours of instruction.
4. An on-line learning student may enroll during a single school year in a maximum of twelve (12) semester-long courses or their equivalent delivered by an on-line learning provider or the school district.
5. An on-line learning student may complete course work at a grade level that is different from the student’s current grade level.
6. An on-line learning student may enroll in additional courses with the on-line learning provider under a separate agreement that includes terms for payment of any tuition or course fees.

##### **C. Classroom Membership and Teacher Contact Time**

1. The school district may reduce an on-line learning student’s regular classroom instructional membership in proportion to the student’s membership in on-line learning courses.

2. The school district may reduce the teacher contact time of an on-line learning student in proportion to the number of on-line learning courses the student takes from an on-line learning provider other than the school district.

D. Academic Credit; Graduation Standards or Requirements

1. The school district shall apply the same graduation requirements to all students, including on-line learning students.
2. The school district shall use the same criteria for accepting on-line learning credits or courses as it does for accepting credits or courses for nonresident transfer students under Minnesota law.
3. The school district may challenge the validity of a course offered by an on-line learning provider. Such a challenge will be filed with the Minnesota Department of Education.
4. The school district shall count secondary credits granted to an on-line learning student toward its graduation and credit requirements.
5. If a student completes an on-line learning course or program that meets or exceeds a graduation standard or grade progression requirement at the school district, that standard or requirement will be met.

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)  
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 124D.095 (On-Line Learning Option Act)

***Cross References:*** Policy 509 (Enrollment of Nonresident Students)  
Policy 605 (Alternative Programs)  
Policy 608 (Instructional Services – Special Education)  
Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)

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Independent School District No. 110  
Waconia, MN

