

Sacramento City USD

Administrative Regulation

Challenging Courses By Examination

AR 6155

Instruction

Students may use the challenge process for accelerating progress toward graduation. The emphasis of this challenge opportunity is to permit students to enroll in other courses within the district curriculum better suited to the students' educational goals.

Procedure

1. A list of courses for which there are challenge exams shall be made available at the school site.
2. The student shall file a challenge petition form for each course to be challenged with his/her counselor/advisor four weeks before the scheduled examination. Entering ninth-grade students and new enrollees may file a petition and take the examination within two weeks of the time of initial entry to high school classes.
3. The challenge petition form shall require the signature of the parent/guardian.
4. The challenge petition form shall include:
 - a. Grades in courses related to the subject area of the challenge, if applicable
 - b. Recommendations from teachers/counselors/advisors
 - c. Student's rationale for challenging a specific course
 - d. Approval by Principal / Designee
5. Students may not challenge more than four courses that meet graduation requirements.
6. The courses of study, syllabi, and all suggested reading lists shall be available at the school site for the student's observation or study.
7. A course may be challenged by a student only once.
8. The procedure for challenging courses shall be available at the school sites.
9. Courses may not be challenged for which a grade has been given.

10. The counselor/advisor shall explain to the student interested in challenge exams the appropriateness of the selected courses for challenge in relation to the student's educational goals.

Criteria for Course Selection

1. Classes required for high school graduation except physical education and drivers education may be considered for challenge exam development.
2. Courses for challenge exam development shall be selected, reviewed, and approved by the Secondary Curriculum Department once a year.

Test Format

Challenge exams shall include a multiple-choice section based on course objectives and at least one or more of the following three elements. The type of examination administered shall depend on the course outline. Review of the four elements shall be conducted by the Secondary Curriculum Department with recommendations by the appropriate district subject-area curriculum committee on a yearly basis.

1. An essay section based on course objectives.
2. An oral interview section based on course objectives.
3. A practical demonstration or experiment based on course objectives.

Test Development

1. Tests shall be developed by a district-wide committee at the district level under the direction of the Secondary Curriculum Department. All test items shall be reviewed on a regular basis.
2. The criteria for passing all sections shall be determined by the appropriate district-wide subject area curriculum committee.

Test Administration

1. The multiple-choice test section, if given, can serve as a screening tool to determine administration of the remainder of the test.
2. School sites shall determine the location and frequency of the test administration.

Credit and Grades:

1. A student must earn an A or B on the challenge exam to receive the corresponding course credit towards graduation.

2. Scoring rubric construction shall be determined by the Secondary Curriculum Department, in coordination with the appropriate district subject-area curriculum committee.
3. The transcript shall reflect that the credit and grade earned were by the challenge process.
4. Only grades A or B will be noted on the student's permanent record.

Regulation SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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