

SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE COURSE PROCEDURES

Upon request, the district will provide supplemental learning opportunities using online technology in a nontraditional classroom setting to students enrolled in the district. Supplemental online courses are an optional avenue of instruction for district enrolled students. All existing requirements related to student progression including retention, promotion, and grade assignment are the same for the district's online students as they are for students enrolled in traditional courses. The district shall ensure that students have the opportunity to advance through the supplemental online course at their own pace so long as the supplemental online course completion corresponds with the standard course completion schedule of the district or the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan.

Definition of Terms

A. "Supplemental online course"

An online program that allows students who are enrolled in a public school to supplement their education by enrolling part time in online courses that are educationally appropriate for the student, which are equal to the equivalent of classroom instruction time required for student attendance and participation by the district.

B. "Educationally appropriate"

For the purposes of supplemental online courses, educationally appropriate means an instructional delivery method best suited for an individual student to advance the student's academic standing toward meeting the learning expectations of the district and State graduation requirements for the student. The determination of educationally appropriate will be made by the district.

Access to Supplemental Online Courses

Only public school students enrolled in the district will be granted access to supplemental online courses. The district provides enrolled students the opportunity to participate in supplemental online courses that comply with the standard curriculum of the district. Once a student has made a request to enroll in supplemental online course(s), the district will take necessary steps to determine the educational appropriateness of the request and to make online course(s) available to that student. Whether a requested online course is educationally appropriate for a student will be determined by the principal/curriculum director or his or her designee. Students may take supplemental online courses from online course providers selected and approved by the district that meet the criteria established by the Oklahoma State Board of Education (OSBE). The district shall not limit a student's access to supplemental online courses by either policy or application of internal or customary procedures. However, students taking supplemental online courses from a remote location will be responsible for providing their own equipment and Internet access.

Funding

The district shall provide funding for an enrolled student's participation in online courses in an amount not to exceed the previous year's general fund per pupil expenditure. District students will be allowed to take up to the academic equivalent of five (5) hours of supplemental online instruction per day at no cost to the student. Students wishing to take more online course instruction may do so at their own cost. The district is not responsible to pay an online course provider for online course instruction expenses incurred by a student that exceed the pro-rated portion of the general fund per pupil expenditure for the student. The district will bear no responsibility for payment or collection of any outstanding funds or fees owed by a student to an online course provider.

SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE COURSE PROCEDURES (Cont.)School Day and Attendance Standards

Public school students enrolled at the district may take supplemental online courses from a location inside or outside of the school site location and may take supplemental online courses outside the normal school hours of operation. Students who elect to enroll in supplemental online courses, regardless of when or where taken, are still required to complete the equivalent number of hours of instruction as regularly enrolled students in the district and must satisfy the same attendance requirements of the district.

Students enrolled in supplemental online courses must meet all state mandated compulsory attendance requirements and are not exempt from state truancy laws. Attendance and participation in a supplemental online course shall be monitored in accordance with district policy and determined by documented student/teacher/course interaction that may include, but is not limited to, online chats, emails, and posting/submission of lessons. The student may be counted "in attendance" when the supplemental online course provider provides evidence of student/teacher/course interaction that demonstrates student progress toward learning objectives and demonstrates regular student engagement in course activity. Supplemental online course providers shall make available to students, parents, and the district, reports that reflect daily attendance and participation. Such attendance/participation reports shall be provided to parents and the district on a weekly basis via electronic format. The supplemental online course provider must provide evidence that the student is making appropriate progress weekly and such reports shall be sent to the designated resident district office via electronic format.

Student Eligibility, Admissions and Enrollment

Online supplemental courses that are educationally appropriate shall be offered to all qualifying district students who meet the following criteria:

- A. The district offers individual academically approved and educationally appropriate online supplemental courses to students who are enrolled in the district. Students enrolled in supplemental online courses must meet all enrollment and eligibility criteria set by the district's residency policy, the Oklahoma State Board of Education Rules, and state law. Only students who are enrolled in the district for the current school year are eligible to enroll in supplemental online courses.
- B. The admission process for students taking one or more supplemental online courses through the district shall be the same for students enrolled in traditional coursework.
- C. The district shall allow for ongoing and continuous enrollment for supplemental online courses that are compliant with state law and all applicable State Board of Education rules. Students may have input as to the selection of supplemental online course providers but the final determination and selection of the providers is left to the discretion of the district.
- D. Students enrolled in supplemental online courses shall have their progress monitored by the supplemental online course provider weekly. Progress reports shall be transmitted to the district's designated representative and the student's parent or guardian via electronic format. Such reports shall be reviewed by the district at least twice per month.
- E. All public school districts in Oklahoma shall recognize course credit issued for courses authorized through the Supplemental Online Course Procedures.

SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE COURSE PROCEDURES (Cont.)

- F. Online course providers shall officially notify the district and parents in writing of the completion of each course the student takes within five (5) business days of completion. Course grades must be reported in the form of a percentage or in a manner consistent with district grading policies. The district shall use its established grading scale to convert the percentage to a letter grade or other notation consistent with district grading policies for transcript purposes.
- G. District policies regarding grading scales and credits earned shall be applied to supplemental online courses under the same criteria as courses offered by the district. A grade assigned for course credit from a supplement online course shall be treated the same as any other course offered by the district.
- H. Online course providers must report any change in a student's status (moving, dropping a course, etc.) immediately upon discovery or notification of the student's change in status.

Appeal Process

If a student's enrollment in a supplemental online course is denied based on a determination by the district that the course is not educationally appropriate, the parents or guardians of the student may appeal that determination to the district Superintendent. The district will notify the OSBE Director of Instructional Technology, of any denial of a student's enrollment in online supplemental course(s), the reason for the denial, and any correspondence or information the district received in support of the student taking the online course.

Grace Period

A student may withdraw from a supplemental online course within fifteen (15) calendar days from the first day of a supplemental online course enrollment without academic penalty. A student who withdraws from any supplemental online course is still obligated to complete the equivalent number of classroom hours of education instruction that is required of students in the district in accordance with state law and district policy. The district shall not be required to pay an online course provider for any student enrollment of less than fifteen (15) calendar days.

Extracurricular and Co-curricular Activities

Students enrolled in one or more supplemental online course may participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by the district in accordance with district eligibility rules and policies, the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Athletic Association (OSSAA) rules and regulations, and any other rules and regulations of a private association governing regulation of the interscholastic activities and contests of schools.

Student Assessments

Each student enrolled in one or more online course will participate in required state-level academic assessments administered pursuant to state law in the same manner as other regularly enrolled students within the state. The results of the assessments shall be released to the district and the online course provider. No student will be allowed to enroll in an online course without submission of a signed Education Student Assessment Results Release Form or FERPA waiver.

SUPPLEMENTAL ONLINE COURSE PROCEDURES (Cont.)Special Education Students

The district shall provide supplementary aids and services, program modifications, supports for personnel and accommodations set forth in a student's IEP or Section 504 Plan to enable a student to take supplemental online courses that have been determined to be educationally appropriate for the student by the student's IEP or 504 team members. Provisions in the IEP for related services shall be the responsibility of the district where the student is enrolled in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Enrollment in a supplemental online course does not abdicate, modify or alter the district's legal obligation under the IDEA.