

Instruction
COURSES OF STUDY

BP 6143 (a)

The Governing Board recognizes that a well-aligned sequence of courses fosters academic growth and provides for the best possible use of instructional time. The district's course of study shall provide students with opportunities to attain the skills, knowledge, and abilities they need to be successful academically, professionally, and personally.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish processes for ensuring the articulation of courses cross grade levels within the district. As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall work with representatives of appropriate area districts and postsecondary institutions to ensure articulation of courses with other institutions to which district students may matriculate. The sequence of courses shall be designed to ensure that each course provides adequate preparation for the next course in the sequence, only utilizes prerequisites that are essential to success in a given program or course, avoids significant duplication of content, and allows for reinforcement and progression in the subject matter.

The district shall not provide any course separately or require or refuse participation by any student on the basis of the student's actual race or ethnicity; ancestry; color; ethnic group identification; nationality; national origin; immigration status; sex; sexual orientation; sex stereotypes; gender; gender identity; gender expression; religion; disability; medical condition; genetic information; pregnancy, false pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or related conditions or recovery; and parental, marital, and family status; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; a combination of two or more of such characteristics or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or a combination of two or more of them. (Education Code 200, 210.1, 210.2, 212, 212.1, 220, 221.51, 230, 260; Government Code 11135, 12926; Penal Code 422.55; 5 CCR 4940; 20 USC 1681-1688, 42 USC 2000d-2000d-7)

Elementary Grades

The Board shall adopt a course of study for elementary grades that includes all required instructional content and sufficiently prepares students for the secondary course of study specified in Education Code 51225.3.

Secondary Grades

The district shall offer all otherwise qualified students in grades 7-12 a course of study that includes all required instructional content and prepares them, upon graduation from high school, to meet the requirements and prerequisites for admission to California public colleges and universities and to attain entry-level employment skills in business or industry. The district's course of study may

Instruction
COURSES OF STUDY

BP 6143 (b)

provide for a rigorous academic curriculum that integrates academic and career skills, includes applied learning across all disciplines, and prepares all students for high school graduation and career entry. (Education Code 51228)

Additionally, the course of study for students in grades 9-12 shall include instruction in skills and knowledge for adult life, career technical training, and a timely opportunity for all otherwise qualified students to enroll, within four years, in each course necessary to fulfill the requirements and prerequisites for admission to California public colleges and universities prior to graduation. (Education Code 51224, 51228)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a process by which courses that meet California college admission criteria (referred to as "A-G" course requirements) are submitted to the University of California for review and certification. The Superintendent or designee shall maintain an accurate list of all current high school courses that have been so certified, ensure that the list is provided annually to all students in grades 9-12 and their parents/guardians, and make updated lists readily available. (Education Code 51229, 66204)

Parental Notification and Opt-Out

When required by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation, the district shall notify parents/guardians that they may request to opt their student out of certain instruction. Students for whom the district has approved the opt-out shall be offered an alternative activity of similar educational value.

State

- 5 CCR 10020: Automobile driver education
- 5 CCR 10040-10043: Automobile driver training
- 5 CCR 10060: Criteria for high school physical education programs
- 5 CCR 430-438: Individual student records
- 5 CCR 4940: Nondiscrimination; course access
- Ed. Code 200: Prohibition of discrimination
- Ed. Code 33319.3: Driver education; CDE materials on road rage
- Ed. Code 33540: Standards for government and civics instruction
- Ed. Code 33540.2: Model curriculum related to Vietnamese American refugee experience
- Ed. Code 33540.4: Model curriculum related to Cambodian American history and heritage
- Ed. Code 33547.5: Mathematics curriculum framework; Algebra I or Mathematics offered to students in grade 8
- Ed. Code 33548: Media literacy and artificial intelligence literacy curriculum frameworks
- Ed. Code 48980: Parent/Guardian notifications
- Ed. Code 49060-49079: Student records
- Ed. Code 49110.5: Workplace readiness week

Instruction
COURSES OF STUDY

BP 6143 (c)

Ed. Code 51202: Instruction in personal and public health and safety
Ed. Code 51203: Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and dangerous drugs
Ed. Code 51204: Course of study designed for student's needs
Ed. Code 51204.5: History of California; contributions of specified groups
Ed. Code 51210: Course of study for grades 1-6
Ed. Code 51220: Course of study for grades 7-12
Ed. Code 51221.1: California Teachers Collaborative for Holocaust and Genocide Education
Ed. Code 51221.2: Holocaust and genocide education; notice, survey, and grant program
Ed. Code 51225.3: High school graduation requirements
Ed. Code 51225.38: Health education; fentanyl instruction
Ed. Code 51225.7-51225.8: Completion and submission of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and California Dream Act Application
Ed. Code 51226.3: Instruction on civil rights, human rights violations, genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust
Ed. Code 51226.7: Model curriculum in ethnic studies
Ed. Code 51226.8: Personal finance course; curriculum guide and resources
Ed. Code 51229: Notifications related to college admissions and career technical education
Ed. Code 51241: Temporary two-year or permanent exemption from physical education
Ed. Code 51501: Nondiscriminatory subject matter
Ed. Code 51911-51921: Comprehensive health education
Ed. Code 51925-51929: Mandatory mental health education and in-service training
Ed. Code 51930-51939: California Healthy Youth Act
Ed. Code 51940: Curriculum for brain and spinal cord injury prevention
Ed. Code 60040-60052: Requirements for instructional materials
Ed. Code 60900-60901: California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System
Ed. Code 66204: Certification of high school courses as meeting university admission criteria
Ed. Code 69560-69566: California Student Opportunity and Access Program
Gov. Code 11135 Prohibition of discrimination
Gov. Code 12900-12996: Fair Employment and Housing Act
Gov. Code 17581.6: Reimbursement of state mandates; block grants
Gov. Code 7282-7282.5: Standards for responding to U.S. Immigration and Customs enforcement holds
Gov. Code 7283-7283.2: Standards for participation in U.S. Immigration and Customs enforcement programs
Gov. Code 7284-7284.12: Cooperation with immigration authorities
H&S Code 11032: Definition of dangerous drugs
Pen. Code 422.55: Definition of hate crime

Federal

20 USC 1232g: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974
20 USC 1681-1688: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; discrimination based on sex
34 CFR 99.1-99.67: Family Educational Rights and Privacy
42 USC 2000d-2000d-7: Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964

Management Resources

California Attorney General Publication: Guidance to School Officials re: Legal Requirements for Providing Inclusive Curricula and Books
California Department of Education Publication: Education Code 51925: Mental Health Instruction Expansion Education Plan, rev. March 2024
Court Decision: Mahmoud v. Taylor (2025) 606 U.S. ____ (2025 WL 1773627)

Instruction
COURSES OF STUDY

BP 6143 (d)

Court Decision: Westminster School District of Orange County v. Mendez (1947) 161 F.2d 774

CSBA Publication: Fact Sheet: Instructional Materials Adoption: Local governing board responsibilities, February 2024

CSBA Publication: Instructional Materials Adoptions: State and local governing board processes, roles, and responsibilities, February 2024

Website: California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program

Website: California College Guidance Initiative

Website: California Student Opportunity and Access Program

Website: Instructional Quality Commission

Website: American Red Cross, Hands-Only CPR Training

Website: CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services

Website: Federal Student Aid

Website: American Heart Association

Website: California Student Aid Commission

Website: University of California, A-G Course Submissions

Website: University of California, List of Approved A-G Courses

Website: California State University, Admission Requirements

Website: California Career Resource Network

Website: Department of Justice

Website: California Colleges.edu

Website: California Department of Education

Website: CSBA

Website: U.S. Department of Education

Policy Adopted: 2/11/2026

ORCUTT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Orcutt, California