

6003: CHALLENGE FOR COURSE CREDIT (AP)

Approved: 97 11 25
Amended: 07 06 26

POLICY

The purpose of challenge is to permit students who have already acquired the appropriate learning elsewhere to obtain credit for a Grade 10, 11 or 12 course. All students are entitled to request an opportunity to challenge a course for credit. Students who request the opportunity to challenge a course must be able to give strong and compelling evidence that they will succeed in the challenge and that it is in their best interests. Challenge is not envisioned as a way for students to improve their course marks, nor as a replacement for the valuable experience of learning in a classroom setting. It is intended that challenge will be a rigorous process.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 All students may challenge only Grade 10, 11 and 12 Ministry or Board Authorized courses and currently being taught in the district.
- 1.2 Prior to initiating the challenge process, schools must carry out an equivalency review under AP 6002.
- 1.3 Students will be granted only one opportunity to challenge a specific course.
- 1.4 For the challenge to be successful, students must demonstrate they have met the prescribed learning outcomes and the same standards as students who take the course through regular classes.
- 1.5 Students will be awarded a letter grade and percentage mark for a course which has been successfully challenged.
- 1.6 Each Senior Secondary school will determine its schedule for course challenges and publicize these at the beginning of each school year.
- 1.7 There is no limit to the number of Grade 10, 11 and 12 courses that a student can challenge.

- 1.8 The school principal will be responsible for implementation of the challenge policy and procedures. Provision for appeal will be available as per District Policy 115.

2.0 STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 A student must be enrolled in the school district, when the challenge is requested.
- 2.2 Only students who have not completed the course through previous enrolment may be eligible to challenge it for credit.
- 2.3 Students must present compelling evidence that they will succeed in the challenge for credit. The following will be considered as indications of the likelihood of success:
 - 2.4.1 Evidence of exceptional ability or interest related to the course that suggests students will achieve the prescribed learning outcomes for the course;
 - 2.4.2 evidence that relevant learning has been acquired outside of school;
 - 2.4.3 recommendations from teachers based on previous learning in a related areas,
- 2.4 The decision for readiness will be made by the principal in consultation with the student and parents/guardian and appropriate course teachers.
- 2.5 Schools are not obliged to provide a student with an opportunity to challenge:
 - 2.5.1 2 courses in their first year of implementation, or
 - 2.5.2 courses that are independent directed studies.

3.0 CHALLENGE FOR CREDIT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- 3.1 The student will complete the “Checklist for Course Challenge.” (Appendix I – two pages).
- 3.2 The student will complete the “Application for Course Challenge.” (Appendix II – two pages).
- 3.3 The principal or designate grants approval of the application by signing the request.
- 3.4 A schedule for assessment and evaluation is determined by the school principal in consultation with course teacher(s) involved.
- 3.5 The challenge process is free of charge.

1.0 ASSESSING AND EVALUATING CHALLENGE

- 4.1 In order to successfully challenge for credit, students must meet the same standards as those expected of students who take the course through regular classes.
- 4.2 Students will be awarded credit for a successful challenge and receive a letter grade and/or percentage mark for the course.
- 4.3 The strategies involved in a challenge should reflect the range and depth of the prescribed learning outcomes for the course and could include:
 - i) portfolios or collection of work;
 - ii) term and final school-based examinations;
 - iii) interviews;
 - iv) laboratory demonstrations;
 - v) Technology Education skills demonstrations;
 - vi) Distance Education materials;
 - vii) oral/aural performances;
 - viii) reports, essays, and/or other written forms of expression;
 - ix) other assessment strategies deemed appropriate by the school.
- 4.4 The entire course must be challenged. Partial credit will not be granted through the challenge process.

2.0 CHALLENGING COURSES WITH PROVINCIAL EXAMINATIONS

Students may challenge courses with a provincial examination according to the following procedures.

- 5.1 Students will first challenge the school portion of the course mark.
- 5.2 Students who are successful in the school portion challenge (5.1) will then be permitted to write the provincial examination at a regularly scheduled sitting of the latter.

COURSE CHALLENGE: ARE YOU READY?

Preliminary Check List:

The intent of this checklist is to provide the student with the opportunity to determine for himself/herself if he/she is ready to challenge the course.

Approval of this form by the school principal will authorize the student to formally apply to challenge a course.

STEPS TO FOLLOW:

- a. The student is to meet with his/her advisor (e.g. Counselor, TAG Teacher, Vice-Principal, Principal)
- b. The student is to review and discuss this list with parent or guardian and have the form signed.
- c. The student is to schedule a meeting with the principal for final approval and the right to proceed with the challenge process.

The student will then complete the formal application form and obtain the information specific to the course being challenged.

NAME: _____ **SCHOOL:** _____

COURSE BEING CHALLENGED _____

		YES	NO
1.	I am aware of the requirements outlined in the District Challenge Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	I am able to demonstrate at a high level of competency a minimum of 80% of the prescribed learning outcomes for this course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	I have reviewed and am able to demonstrate mastery of the learning outcomes in a variety of ways. I understand that a variety of assessment procedures will be used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	I recognize that the full course must be challenged for credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	This course is offered in School District 70 (Alberni)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. I am aware that if this is a provincially examinable course I am required to write the provincial examination.
7. I have met with a designated advisor (e.g. Counsellor ,TAG Teacher, Vice Principal, Principal).
8. I wish to proceed with the course challenge
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SIGNATURES

Student: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____

Designated Advisor: _____ School Administrator _____

THIS PRELIMINARY REQUEST IS APPROVED: Yes No (if no, see comments below)

COMMENTS: _____

COURSE CHALLENGE: APPLICATION FORM

Please complete all relevant sections of this form in order to apply for Course Challenge. Incomplete applications may delay processing of your request.

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Mailing Address _____

City: _____ Province _____ Postal Code: _____

Student Number: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

School last attended: _____

1. I wish to challenge the following course:

COURSE: _____	10	Ministry Authorized/Board Authorized
	11	Ministry Authorized/Board Authorized
	12	Ministry Authorized/Board Authorized

2. The following paragraph explains why I wish to challenge this course. It identifies how this challenge relates to my personal, academic and career goals.

3. PARENT INFORMATION:

I agree to being considered for Challenge for credit and agree to provide any supporting and compelling evidence for that process.

Parent/guardian signature: _____

Signature of student: _____

Date of Challenge: _____