

## Youth Options Program

The Youth Options Program provides eligible students an opportunity to take courses at technical colleges and institutions of higher education while in high school. Students interested in participating shall inform the District of their intention to take postsecondary courses under this program, prior to enrollment in the course(s) and within designated timelines.

The Board shall determine whether a course taken through the Youth Options Program is comparable to a course offered in the District, whether it satisfies graduation requirements and what, if any, high school credits will be awarded to the student.

Courses taken, as part of the Youth Options Program, shall be paid for as follows:

1. If the course is taken for high school credit and the course is not comparable to a course offered in the District, the Board shall pay the tuition and fees for the course.
2. If the course is taken for postsecondary credit only or the course taken is comparable to a course offered in the District, the student shall pay the tuition and fees for the course.
3. If the student attending courses at a technical college under this program is a child with a disability, the Board shall also pay the costs of any special services required for the student as determined jointly by the District and technical college. The District may refuse to permit a child with a disability to attend a technical college under this program if it determines that the cost to the District would impose an undue financial burden on the District.
4. The District shall pay for no more than the equivalent of 18 postsecondary semester credits (4 ½ high school credits) per student. The District shall not, however, limit the number of postsecondary semester credits a student may take at his/her own expense.
5. The District will pay only for the courses that are successfully completed. If a student receives a failing grade in a course or fails to complete the course, the student's parent/guardian or the student, if an adult, is responsible for reimbursing the District for payment of the tuition and fees paid by the District. If this reimbursement is not made, the student is ineligible for any further participation in the Youth Options Program.
6. The District shall pay for the costs of books and equipment required for the class. The books and equipment shall become the property of the District unless the student reimburses the District.

Students participating in the Youth Options Program shall be responsible for providing their own transportation to and from postsecondary courses under this program.

The high school principal shall administer the Youth Options Program in the District and shall use the following guidelines to determine a recommendation to the Board concerning the awarding of high school credit for courses taken through the Youth Options Program:

1. Credit will be awarded for those courses that meet the District's graduation requirements and any of the following conditions apply:
  - a. The course is complementary to, consistent with or expands on a course of study or sequence of courses offered at the high school.
  - b. The course expands the opportunity for a student to move to another level of academic or vocational course of study.
  - c. The course meets or exceeds the same standards for rigor and content as other courses approved but not offered by the District for credit toward graduation.
  - d. Courses that support rather than prevent a student from completing high school graduation requirements.
2. If a Youth Option Program course is approved for high school credit, one-fourth high school credit will be granted per one semester credit offered by the course.
3. High school credit may be denied for a Youth Options Program course that repeats the postsecondary course content for which the student has already taken and failed.
4. High school credit may be denied for a Youth Options Program course if the District offers a comparable course.
5. High school credit may be denied for a course if it repeats the course content for which a student has already received a passing grade and high school credit.
6. In order to receive high school credit for a course taken under the Youth Options Program, a student must successfully complete the course and receive a passing grade.

Legal Reference: Wis. Statutes Section 118.55 (Youth Options)

Approved: January 18, 2005