

**BOARD POLICY: EARNING CREDIT TOWARD MEETING THE
GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS**

7090

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Section A - Introduction

It is the policy of the Board of Education of District #225 that students are required to earn 24.00 units of credit for graduation from the Glenbrook High Schools (see Board of Education Policy 7300). One unit of credit is equivalent to a full year course, whereas a semester course yields one-half unit of credit. The 24.00 units of credit shall be earned by students following graduation from the eighth grade and prior to graduation from the twelfth grade. These credits shall be earned only through the means indicated below.

Section B - Glenbrook Approved Courses

In most instances credit shall be earned by students through the successful completion of courses offered by the Glenbrook High School district. Such courses shall include only those courses approved by the Board of Education and listed in the curriculum guides.

Section C - Transferred Credits

Students who transfer into the Glenbrook High Schools may receive credit for courses successfully completed in one of the following three types of secondary schools:

1. Secondary schools approved by the Illinois State Board of Education or other state offices of education.
2. Secondary schools accredited by the North Central Association of Secondary Schools or other similar accrediting agencies.
3. Non-accredited schools, including foreign transcripts and home schools, if approved by the principal/designee of the designated school. Approval criteria may include in-class-time, rigor of instruction, content coverage and lab experience, and demonstration of proficiency through examination.
4. Glenbrook officials shall request that the sending school furnish an official transcript of courses and credits when a student transfers into this district. Students who have already graduated from any high school or any non-accredited or home school are not eligible for enrollment in the Glenbrook district. The assistant principal for student services shall attempt to place the eligible student in similar courses to those for which the student was registered at the previous school provided the District has recognized the credits received at the previous school. Letter grades received other than from the District will be recorded on a student's transcript but will not be counted in the student's GPA and will not be allowed as a grade to replace a course previously taken in the Glenbrook district. The determination as to the amount of credit will be determined by the principal/designate pursuant to Section N of this Policy.

Section D – Non-Recognized and Non-Accredited Schools

Recognition of grade placement and academic credits awarded by a non-recognized or non-accredited school is at the sole discretion of the principal/designee of the designated school. A student who, after receiving instruction in a non-recognized or non-accredited school, enrolls in the district will: 1) be assigned to a grade level according to academic proficiency, and/or 2) have academic credits recognized by the district if the student demonstrates appropriate academic proficiency to the principal or designee. Letter grades received other than from the District may be recorded on a student's transcript but will not be counted in the student's GPA. Exceptions for extraordinary circumstances may be granted by the principal/designee of the respective school.

Section E – Students with Pending Suspension or Expulsion

As permitted by Sections 5/2-3.13a and 5/10-22.6(g) of the *Illinois School Code* [105 ILCS 5/2-3.13a and 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(g)], if an enrolling student has been suspended or expelled from any public or private school in or outside of Illinois, the student must complete the entire term of the suspension or expulsion before being admitted to the School District. The Administration, in its sole discretion, may enroll the student, and if enrolled, may place the student in an alternative school program established under Article 13A of the *Illinois School Code* [105 ILCS 5/13A-0.5 *et seq.*], if available, for the remainder of the suspension or expulsion. In the event that the student is admitted to an alternative program, such admission and the student's continued attendance shall be considered probationary and subject to compliance with such terms and conditions determined by the principal or designee in his or her sole discretion. The student's admission and continued attendance may be terminated by the principal or designee, in his or her sole discretion, if any of the terms or conditions is violated. Such terms and conditions may include, but are not limited to, continued compliance with an Alternative Discipline Plan and/or payment by the parent/guardian or student of all or a portion of the cost of the alternative program. Transportation to the alternative program shall be the responsibility of the parent/guardian or student.

Section F - Correspondence/Internet Based Courses

1. It is the policy of the Board of Education that a student may elect to take a maximum of two units of credit obtained by the completion of approved correspondence/Internet based courses which may be applied toward the Glenbrook graduation requirements, only with the prior written approval of the principal/designee of the respective school. In the event that the district provides and/or approves alternative education for a student and the venue is through correspondence or Internet based instructions, the amount of credit will be determined by the principal/designee in accordance with Section N of this Policy. All expenses involved in a correspondence or Internet-based course enrollment shall be the responsibility of the enrolling student. Exceptions for extraordinary circumstances may be granted by the principal/designee of the respective school.

2. Under extraordinary circumstances, a student's needs may most appropriately be met by enrollment in a supervised, independent study course by correspondence or via the Internet. In the event that the enrollment in these courses is at the recommendation of the school, the number of allowable units of course credit may exceed two. A student's transcript will reflect the credit and the grade received by the institution. The recorded grades earned at these institutions by the students will not be factored into the student's GPA unless specifically agreed upon and the placement was part of a student's Individualized Educational Plan. Exceptions for extraordinary circumstances may be granted by the principal/designee of the respective school. All expenses involved in a correspondence or Internet-based course enrollment shall be the responsibility of the enrolling student.

Section G - Post-Secondary Institution Course Credit

1. In lieu of the two units of credit which may be earned through correspondence/Internet-based courses, students may enroll, only with the prior written approval of the principal or designee, in a post-secondary institution and earn up to two units of credit toward the Glenbrook graduation requirements. Grades for post-secondary institution courses that count toward the Glenbrook graduation requirements will be posted on the student transcript, but will not be factored into the grade point average (GPA). These grades will not replace grades for courses previously completed. Such enrollment is subject to the provisions of this Board policy. Exceptions for extraordinary circumstances may be granted by the principal/designee of the respective school.
2. In determining whether enrollment in a post-secondary correspondence or Internet-based course is the appropriate educational experience for a student, the principal/designee shall consider such factors as:
 - 1) The availability and similarity of the programs provided at Glenbrook,
 - 2) The ability of the student to access the Glenbrook programs,
 - 3) The number of credits needed by the student to meet graduation requirements,
 - 4) The age of the student,
 - 5) The availability and similarity of Glenbrook summer and evening school courses.

Section H - Non-Glenbrook Summer Programs

Summer classes completed for credit toward graduation at another accredited high school program or at a center within a college or university must be approved in writing in advance by the principal or designee. The amount of credit and level (i.e. regular, honors) awarded by Glenbrook will be determined prior to approval based upon Section N of this policy.

Section I - Non-Accredited Schools

Credits from non-accredited schools will not be accepted at face value, but shall be determined under Section N of this policy.

Section J - Proficiency Examinations

It is the policy of the Board of Education that proficiency examinations may be used for the purpose of making decisions regarding the placement of students into the appropriate courses. However, the use of proficiency examinations in lieu of classroom instruction for the purpose of earning credit to be applied toward Glenbrook graduation requirements is not authorized.

Section K - Homebound or Hospital Bound Instruction

Students may receive credit toward the Glenbrook graduation requirements through enrollment in homebound or Hospital-bound instruction as approved in writing by the principal/designee. (see Board of Education policy 7160.)

Section L - Military Experience

It is the policy of the Board of Education to accept credit toward the Glenbrook graduation requirements for successful completion of course work offered through the United States military. The determination as to the amount of the credit will be determined by the principal/designee pursuant to Section N of this policy.

Section M - Correctional Institution Educational Programs

It is the policy of the Board of Education to grant high school credit toward the Glenbrook graduation requirements for the completion of educational programs approved by the Illinois State Board of Education which are conducted by the Illinois Department of Correction. The determination as to the amount of the credit will be determined by the principal/designee pursuant to Section N of this policy.

Section N – Determination of Credit Awarded

1. The determination as to the extent to which credit shall be awarded for any course outside of courses offered by the Glenbrook district shall be made by the principal/designee of the respective school. Consideration of the extent to which credit shall be awarded shall be based on factors including, but not limited to, classroom time, course content, rigor of instruction, lab experience, demonstration of proficiency and, in the case of courses taken by the student outside of the District, comparison to coursework offered by the District.
2. In the event the student disagrees with that determination, the student may request that the Superintendent review such finding, and the Superintendent's determination shall be final. Such request shall be made in writing to the Superintendent within five days after the student receives the determination of the principal/designee.

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