Alternative Learning Experience Courses

The board authorizes the creation of alternative learning experience (ALE) courses, as defined in the procedure which accompanies this policy.

The district will make available to students enrolled in an ALE courses educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs. The district will comply with all program requirements necessary to count an ALE as a course of study and ensure state funding for ALE students.

ALE programs may include the following types of courses as defined in RCW 28A.232.010:

1. Online courses *(See Policy 2024, Online Learning)*;

2. Remote courses; and

3. Site-based courses.

The board will adopt and annually review written policies authorizing ALE courses, including each ALE course and course provider. The policy must designate, by title, one or more school district official(s) responsible for overseeing the district's ALE courses.

The district establishes the following alternative courses(s) provided on site or over the internet or by other electronic means, as defined in WAC 392-121-182:

Washington Connections K-8 Virtual Academy

The school district official(s) responsible for this (these) course(s) is/are:

Jenn Francis, Principal. Jarrod Hogue, Director.

Reporting Requirements

1. **Annual Report to the Board of Directors**
   The school district official responsible for overseeing each ALE course will report at least annually to the board. This annual report will include at least the following:

   1. Documentation of ALE student headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment claimed for basic education funding;

   2. Identification of the overall ratio of certificated instructional staff to full-time equivalent students enrolled in each ALE course; the number of certificated staff in each ALE course;

   3. A description of how the course supports the district's overall goals and objectives for student academic achievement; and

   4. Results of any self-evaluations.

2. **Monthly Report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction**
   The district must report monthly to the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

   1. Accurate monthly headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment for students enrolled in alternative learning experiences; and

2. Information about the resident and serving districts of such students.

3. **Annual Report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction**
The district must submit an annual report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction detailing the costs and purposes of any expenditures made to purchase or contract for instructional or co-curricular experiences and services that are included in an ALE written student learning plan, along with the substantially similar experiences or services made available to students enrolled in the district's regular instructional program.

4. **Annual Report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction**
The district must report annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

    1. the number of certificated instructional staff full-time equivalent assigned to each alternative learning experience program; and

    2. enrollment of students (separately identified) where ALE instruction is provided entirely under contract pursuant to RCW 28A.150.305 and WAC 392-121-188.

Assessment Requirements:
All students enrolled in alternative learning experience courses or course work must be assessed at least annually, using, for full-time students, the state assessment for the student's grade level and using any other annual assessments required by the district.

Part-time students must also be assessed at least annually. However, part-time students who are either receiving home-based instruction under Chapter 28A.200, RCW or who are enrolled in an approved private school under Chapter 28A.195, RCW are not required to participate in the assessments required under Chapter 28A.655, RCW.

Any student whose alternative learning experience enrollment is claimed as greater than 0.8 full-time equivalent in any one month through the January count date must be included by the district in any required state or federal accountability reporting for that school year, subject to existing state and federal accountability rules and procedures.

Students enrolled in nonresident district alternative learning experience courses or course work who are unable to participate in required annual state assessments at the nonresident district must have the opportunity to participate in such required annual state assessments at the district of physical residence, subject to that district's planned testing schedule. It is the responsibility of the nonresident enrolling district to establish a written agreement with the district of physical residence that facilitates all necessary coordination between the districts and with the student and, where appropriate, the student's parent(s) to fulfill this requirement. Such coordination may include:

- arranging for appropriate assessment materials;
- notifying the student of assessment administration schedules;
- arranging for the forwarding of completed assessment materials to the enrolling district for submission for scoring and reporting; and
- arranging for any allowable testing accommodations, and other steps as may be necessary.

The agreement may include rates and terms for payment of reasonable fees by the enrolling district to the district of physical residence to cover costs associated with planning for and administering the assessments to students not enrolled in the district of physical residence. Assessment results for students assessed according to these provisions must be included in the enrolling district's accountability measurements, and not in the district of physical residence's accountability measurements.

Students who drop out of ALE courses
A school district offering or contracting to offer an alternative learning experience course to a nonresident student must inform the resident school district if the student drops out of the course or is otherwise no longer enrolled.

Procedures
The superintendent is directed to develop procedures consistent with WAC 392-121-182 to govern the administration of the district's ALE courses.

Cross References:	2020 - Course Design, Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials 2024 - Online Learning
Legal References:	RCW 28A.150.305 Alternative educational service providers — Student eligibility. RCW 28A.232.010 Alternative learning experience courses — Generally — Rules — Reports. RCW 28A.250.050 Student access to online courses and online learning programs — Policies and procedures — Course credit — Dissemination of information — Development of local or regional online learning programs. WAC 392-121-107 Definition-Course of study WAC 392-121-182 Alternative learning experience requirements WAC 392-121-188 Instruction provided under contract
Management Resources:	2018 - May Issue 2017 - April Issue 2014 - February Issue 2012 - October Issue 2011 - October Issue

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