

Hitchcock Independent School District

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Date: **November 17, 2025**

Presented by: **Dr. Darryl J. Henson, Interim Superintendent of Schools**

Subject: **Procedures for Credit by Examination Without Prior Instruction**

Action Item

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Hitchcock ISD's policy on earning credit by examination without prior instruction provides students in grades 1–12 with the opportunity to accelerate to the next grade level or earn course credit by successfully passing board-approved exams, as required by state law and State Board of Education rules. For kindergarten acceleration, a child who is five years old at the beginning of the school year may be assigned directly to grade 1, subject to approval by district personnel and based on criteria such as readiness or achievement test scores, recommendations from previous educators, chronological age, and the student's observed social and emotional development.

To qualify for acceleration in grades 1–5, students must score at least 80% on required content area tests, receive a district recommendation, and have parental approval. For subjects with corresponding end-of-course (EOC) assessments, exams must meet stringent validation, alignment, and reporting requirements. Students are typically limited to two attempts per examination, and districts may not charge for these exams. Special provisions exist for homeless students or those in substitute care, ensuring equitable access throughout the year. Testing opportunities are provided at least four times annually, and outcomes must be publicized and documented.

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

I move that the Board approve the procedures for credit by examination without prior instruction as presented.

POLICY AUTHORIZATION:

EHDC(LEGAL)

EHDC(LOCAL)

CONTACT PERSON:

Megan Stall, Coordinator of Assessment, Accountability, and Instructional Technology

FUNDING SOURCE:

N/A

ENCLOSURES:

Credit by Exam Information

Credit by Exam Registration Form