

*Adopted:* February 9, 2004

*Revised:* March 19, 2007

## **620 CREDIT FOR LEARNING**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to recognize student achievement which occurs in Post-Secondary Enrollment Options and other advanced enrichment programs, in out-of-school experiences such as community organizations, work-based learning, and other educational activities and opportunities.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

It is the policy of the school district to develop and provide processes and procedures by which students may meet a graduation requirement for a content standard, in its curriculum or the student accomplishes the work in another learning environment. The school district will provide a process for transfer of standards completed in another Minnesota school district, recognition of work completed in other schools and post-secondary institutions, and credit for standards achieved in extracurricular activities, activities outside the school, previous learning, and community and work experiences. The school district may also waive the academic standards for certain students if the criteria for such waivers are met.

### **III. VARIATIONS OF CONTENT STANDARDS**

#### **A. Rigorous Course of Study - Waiver**

1. Upon application of a student, with approval of the student's parent or guardian and with the recommendation of the student's teacher, the school district must declare that a student has completed an academic standard if the school board determines that:
  - a. There is a signed and dated parent or guardian letter indicating the following:

“I have reviewed the academic standards that will be waived if my child satisfactorily completes (fill in the name of the rigorous course or learning opportunity outside of the curriculum) and hereby provide my consent for the waiver to be considered by the school board.”
  - b. The student is participating in a course of study, including an advanced placement or international baccalaureate course or a learning opportunity outside the curriculum of the school district

that is equally or more rigorous than the corresponding state or local academic standard required by the school district or state; and

- c. Achieving the academic standard to be waived would preclude the student from participating in the rigorous course of study or learning opportunity.
  - d. The student satisfactorily completes the requirements for the rigorous course of study learning opportunity, or preparatory employment or postsecondary education program. The student must provide official documentation of successful passage of the rigorous course in order to receive final approval. This written documentation must be received by a certain date in order to qualify for the final approval waiver.
2. A student who satisfactorily completes a post-secondary enrollment options course or program under Minn. Stat. § 124D.09, that has been approved as meeting the necessary requirements, is not required to complete other requirements of the academic standards corresponding to that specific rigorous course of study. A list of the courses or programs meeting the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Commissioner of the Department.
  3. A waiver may not have the effect of a student's graduating with no completed academic standards in any of the learning areas and a waiver should rarely be granted from more than one requirement.

#### **IV. POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT CREDIT**

- A. A student who satisfactorily completes a post-secondary enrollment options course, on-line learning course or program under Minn. Stat. § 124D.09, that has been approved as meeting the necessary requirements, is not required to complete other requirements of the MN Academic Standards, adopted by the school district corresponding to that specific rigorous course of study.
- B. Secondary credits granted to a student through a post-secondary enrollment options course, or on-line learning course shall be counted toward the graduation and credit requirements of a student completing the Minnesota Academic Standards.
- C. A list of courses or programs meeting the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Department and/or school district.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students.)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)  
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Act)

Minn. Stat. § 124D.095 (On-Line Learning Option)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards - Mathematics and Reading)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards - Written Composition)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Basic Standards Testing, Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP, Section 504 Accommodation, and LEP Students)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Standard Achievement)