

*Chillicothe High School:
Committed to Giving Our
Students the Best Educational
Opportunities*

What is Credit Flexibility?

The credit flexibility initiative is part of a statewide effort to increase learning and engagement and help student's graduate ready for success in college and careers.

In addition to earning credit by successfully completing traditional courses, the credit flexibility program provides new options for students including:

- Earning credit by demonstrating mastery of the essential content of a traditional course by "testing out," presenting a portfolio documenting mastery, or a combination of these.
- Successfully completing a mentorship, internship, educational travel, or service learning program aligned to the academic curriculum.
- Successfully completing an online course or academic summer or after-school program aligned to the school curriculum.
- Successfully combining any of the options above as well as units of traditional courses.

Credit flexibility is another example of how our district is working to prepare students for the 21st Century by striving to address their unique needs and talents.

Additional Information Credit Flexibility Information

Additional details and materials related to credit flexibility are available on the high school's credit flexibility webpage at: <http://www.chillicothe.k12.oh.us/schools/chs/> or with the CHS Guidance Department at 421 Yoctangee Parkway.

Additional resources include the following:

CCSD Board of Education Credit Flexibility Policy

CHS Credit Flexibility Program Outline

CHS Credit Flexibility Program Student Proposal Form/Credit Flexibility Credit Contract

CHS Credit Flexibility Program Appeals Process Form

Online and community-based learning options developed or sponsored by the district

Credit Flexibility information for student athletes (sports eligibility requirements for OHSAA and NCAA)

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CHS Credit Flexibility Program: A Guide for Students and Families

Cavalier
PRIDE



What Does It Mean?

Benefits to Students

The flexible routes to accumulating high school credit will make it possible for students to own and customize learning through increased opportunities for real-world experiences that relate to their interests and career aspirations.

Students may earn credits by:

- Completing Coursework;
- Testing out of or demonstrating mastery of course content; or
- Pursuing one or more “educational options” (for example, distance learning, educational travel, independent study, an internship, music, arts, after-school/tutorial program, community service or other engagement projects).

Credit flexibility allows:

- Access to more learning resources;
- Customization around individual student needs;
- Use of multiple measures of learning;
- Students to take personal responsibility for their learning through educational planning and follow through of their self made learning goals

Earning Credit by Demonstrating Mastery

Students may earn high school credit by demonstrating mastery of essential content and skills addressed in any traditional high school course offered by the district.

Demonstrations of mastery may involve completing a comprehensive examination, submitting a portfolio of work, or a combination of these. For credit in the arts, demonstrations of mastery may also include performances or exhibitions.

When students request the opportunity to earn credit for completing the content of a course offered by the district, the district will provide to the student information about its requirements, methods to be used for assessing mastery, and grading criteria.

The district will also work with the student to schedule times for the student to participate in testing and/or present his or her portfolio.

Typically, the district will use portions of exams developed for a traditional course (e.g. mid-term and final exams) or a standardized test (such as an AP test, achievement test, or end-of-course exam) and/or a portfolio evaluation rubric. If a student completes the assessment process prior to the start of a term, he or she will be given the opportunity to accept the grade earned based on this process or enroll in the equivalent traditional course (final grade will be based on district policy).

Earning Credit through “Educational Options”

Students may earn high school credit by successfully completing academically-focused educational options, which may include the following:

- Internships and mentorships with businesses and community organizations,
- Service learning programs,
- On-line programs,
- Guided “independent study” experiences,
- Educational travel programs.

Students will propose their own “educational options plans.” This option may be useful when a student wishes to pursue an interest in a specialized topic, or when a student has a unique opportunity to participate in a special program outside the school (e.g. study abroad, internships)

In order to apply for Credit Flex at CHS students must obtain the proper documentation from their guidance counselor: the CCSD Board of Education Credit Flexibility Policy, the CHS Credit Flexibility Program Outline, the CHS Credit Flexibility Program Student Proposal Form/Credit Flexibility Credit Contract, and the CHS Credit Flexibility Program Appeals Process Form.

While the district will make every effort to minimize costs, students’ families may be asked to contribute to the cost of special instructional fees. Assessments will be administered free of charge. (Check with the district designated personnel regarding cost.)