

School District #62 (Sooke)

CHALLENGE & EQUIVALENCY	No. C-211
	Effective: Mar. 11/97 Revised: Mar. 14/11; Apr. 30/24 Reviewed: Mar. 5/24; Mar. 12/24; Apr. 30/24

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

The Sooke School District 62 recognizes that students may earn credits toward graduation in a variety of ways. Learning is a life-long activity and occurs in a variety of ways, some of which take place outside of British Columbia or outside of the regular secondary school program.

All Sooke School District 62 students enrolled are entitled to undertake a free challenge and/or equivalency process to assess their prior learning for Ministry-developed graduation program courses, as well as the Board Authorized (BAA) course taught in the district that school year. Schools will grant credit towards graduation for learning that has been assessed and matches or exceeds provincial standards.

Crediting prior learning creates flexibility and greater opportunities for students to achieve their goals. The process of assessing prior learning for credit should be rigorous but not onerous, maintaining the integrity of the learning standards in the curriculum, and the standards of a quality education.

Challenge is the process whereby students receive credit for a provincially or Board Approved Grade 10, 11 or 12 course, offered within a district, through an assessment process of the relevant knowledge and skills they have gained elsewhere, but which are formally undocumented.

Equivalency is the process of gaining credit for a Grade 10, 11 or 12 provincially or Board Approved course, if supporting documentation shows that a student has achieved the course learning outcomes at another institution or in another education jurisdiction.

External Credit - All students enrolled are entitled to receive credit if they have earned a Ministry-approved credential. The Ministry of Education and Child Care has sole authority to review and approve external credentials and assessments. The list is published in the Ministry's online Course Registry.

Post-Secondary Credit - Students are entitled to earn "dual credit" if they earn credit that leads to a post-secondary credential from a post-secondary institution which is a member of the British Columbia Transfer System. Applicable post-secondary level courses count towards the required number of Grade 12 level credits needed to satisfy graduation requirements.

Authority

- See Ministerial Order 302/04, the [Graduation Program Order \(PDF\)](#)
- BC Public School Policy 2018, the [Earning Credit through Equivalency, Challenge, External Credentials, Post Secondary Credit and Independent Studies Credit](#)