



Book	BHASD Policies
Section	100 Programs
Title	Independent Study
Code	118
Status	Active
Adopted	June 28, 2004
Last Reviewed	February 4, 2019

Purpose

The Board shall consider approval of a course of independent study for a properly qualified student, as recommended by the Superintendent or designee, on the condition that the student shall demonstrate achievement of established educational goals and academic standards as a result of participation in the independent study.

The purposes of independent study shall be to:

1. Extend the learning experience begun in the classroom.
2. Develop student's judgment and self-reliance in the conduct of their learning experience.
3. Relate academic knowledge to the world of work and learning beyond the school.
4. Draw upon community resources as well as school resources for a student's educational programs.
5. Include a greater variety of learning experiences within the educational program.
6. Identify and explore an area of particular interest.
7. Set personal learning goals and work toward achieving them, with appropriate staff guidance.
8. Learn to use various research tools and methods.

Authority

The Board shall approve each course of independent study and may designate the number of credits toward graduation to be awarded upon successful completion of each course, except that the Board reserves the right to assign no credit for an approved course.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Courses of independent study may not be limited to participation by a single student but may involve a group of students, subject to Board approval.

Each course of independent study must meet the requirements of applicable laws and regulations.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement independent study programs that:

1. Counsel students who apply for independent study.
2. Develop specified, measurable, instructional objectives and standards for each planned course of independent study.
3. Assure that each student conducts his/her study under appropriate staff guidance and supervision.
4. Monitor the progress of each student.
5. Certify the completion of each course of independent study based upon the original specified objectives.
6. Prepare recommendations for Board approval of courses of independent study.

Guidelines

Recommendations shall include the qualifications of the student, the objectives established for the course, a description of the method of study and research to be undertaken, the staff members assigned to advise the project, the manner in which the project will be evaluated, and a proposal for the number of credits to be awarded for the course.

The Board directs that only those students shall be admitted to courses of independent study who have demonstrated academic proficiency, maturity of judgment, a strong motivation to learn, and self-reliance.

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare recommendations for Board approval of courses of independent study, based on the recommendation of the building principal.

Legal

[1. 22 PA Code 4.4](#)

[2. 22 PA Code 4.24](#)

[22 PA Code 4.12](#)

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