

INSTRUCTION AT A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

Students in grades nine through twelve may receive academic or vocational-technical credits that count toward the graduation requirements set out by the board for courses successfully completed in post-secondary educational institutions. The student may receive academic or vocational-technical credits through an agreement between a post-secondary educational institution or with the board's approval on a case-by-case basis.

Students in grades nine through twelve who successfully complete courses in post-secondary educational institutions under an agreement between the school district and the post-secondary educational institution will receive academic and vocational-technical credits in accordance with the agreement.

Students who have completed the eleventh grade but who have not completed the graduation requirements set out by the board may take up to seven semester hours of credit at a post-secondary educational institution during the summer months when school is not in session if the student pays for the courses. Upon successful completion of these summer courses, the students will receive academic or vocational-technical credit toward the graduation requirements set out by the board. Successful completion of the course is determined by the post-secondary educational institution. The board will have complete discretion to determine the academic credit to be awarded to the student for the summer courses.

The following factors are considered in the board's determination of whether a student will receive academic or vocational-technical credit toward the graduation requirements set out by the board for a course at a post-secondary educational institution:

- the course is taken from a public or accredited private post-secondary educational institution;
- a comparable course is not offered in the school district. A comparable course is one in which the subject matter or the purposes and objectives of the course are similar, in the judgment of the board, to a course offered in the school district;
- the course is in the discipline areas of mathematics, science, social sciences, humanities, vocational-technical education, or a course offered in the community college career options program;
- the course is a credit-bearing course that leads to a degree;
- the course is not religious or sectarian; and
- the course meets any other requirements set out by the board.

Students in grades eleven and twelve who take courses, other than courses taken under an agreement between the school district and the post-secondary educational institution, are responsible for transportation without reimbursement to and from the location where the course is being offered.

Ninth and tenth grade talented and gifted students and all students in grades eleven and twelve will be reimbursed for tuition and other costs directly related to the course up to \$250. Students who take courses during the summer months when school is not in session are responsible for the costs of attendance for the courses.

Approved 5-09-05

Reviewed _____

Revised _____

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Students who fail the course and fail to receive credit will reimburse the school district for all costs directly related to the course. Prior to registering for the course, students under age eighteen will have a parent sign a form indicating that the parent is responsible for the costs of the course should the student fail the course and fail to receive credit for the course. Students who fail the course and fail to receive credit for the course for reasons beyond their control, including, but not limited to, the student's incapacity, death in the family or a move to another district, may not be responsible for the costs of the course. The school board may waive reimbursement of costs to the school district for the previously listed reasons. Students dissatisfied with a school board's decision may appeal to the AEA for a waiver of reimbursement.

The superintendent is responsible for annually notifying students and parents of the opportunity to take courses at post-secondary educational institutions in accordance with this policy. The superintendent will also be responsible for developing the appropriate forms and procedures for implementing this policy.

The following is criteria used to determine the nature of weighted courses at Farragut High School:

College Credit: Any PSEO course will be weighted.

Reading: The course will require a considerable amount of reading at the college/adult level.

Writing: The course will require writing assignments related to complex concepts and issues.

Thinking: The course will require students to use and demonstrate complex analytical and creative thinking skills.

Benefits to students: Even though many students may see weighted grades as simply a means to a higher GPA, we at Farragut CSD are encouraging students and families to look far beyond the basic mathematics of weighted grades. Some of the true benefits and opportunities for students taking these courses will be:

- Better preparation for the demands and expectations of college courses
- An enhanced ability to analyze complex situations and communicate this analysis in a clear and concise manner
- Greater understanding of concepts as related to entire systems (systems of concepts) as opposed to a superficial knowledge of concepts, which may have seemed separate and disjointed
- A greater appreciation for the benefits and risks of facing intellectual challenges and meeting high standards of achievement

It is these benefits and many more which makes us excited about the opportunities we are prepared to offer students here at Farragut. And as we have stated before, even though other courses offer many of these same benefits, we truly believe that students who accept the challenge of taking weighted grade courses will realize even greater benefits.

Farragut Secondary Courses:
Advanced Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, and Spanish IV.

Grade	Regular	Weighted
A	4	5
A-	3.8	4.8
B+	3.5	4.5
B	3	4
B-	2.8	3.8
C+	2.5	3.5
C	2	3
C-	1.8	2.8
D+	1.5	1.5
D	1	1
D-	0.6	0.6
F	0	0

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11, .11A; 261C; 279.8; 280.3, .14 (2005).
281 I.A.C. 12, 22.

Cross Reference: 505 Student Scholastic Achievement
604.4 Program for Talented and Gifted Students