



## Columbus City Schools - Credit Flexibility Options Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who may apply for Credit Flexibility?

A: Any current Columbus City School student.

Q: Which course may I apply for Credit Flexibility?

A: You may apply for any high school course currently offered. You may also develop proposals for subjects not currently offered with District approval. The number of courses for which a student may apply is unlimited.

Q: If I apply for the Credit by Individual Proposal, do I have to apply for the full credit of a course?

A: Yes, unless you are developing your own plan for a course we do **not** offer. Credit may also be earned simultaneously for: secondary and post-secondary credit; academic and career technical experiences; more than one academic content/course area.

Q: If I fail my Credit Flexibility option, may I then take the course in Credit Recovery?

A: No

Q: Are Credit Flexibility options given a pass/fail score or a letter grade?

A: A letter grade – just like a regular course. The letter grade will appear on your transcript like any other course. The Ohio Department of Education strongly suggests that a letter grade be awarded. However, the option for a letter grade or pass/fail exists. The grading scale for Credit Flexibility Options is as follows: 90%-100% = A; 80%-89%=B; 70%-79%=C; 60%-69%=D; 59% or below=F

Q: Do my Credit Flexibility options appear on my schedule?

A: Yes, they would appear on your schedule as a “period 10” class which means you are taking the course but are not scheduled to attend a class during the regular school day for that course.

Q: Would Credit Flexibility affect my athletic eligibility?

A: Yes, please consult your Athletic Director and Guidance Counselor and see the additional information regarding athletic eligibility.

Q: Who reviews my Credit by Individual Proposal if I submit one?

A: A district committee of teachers and administrators.

Q: What are some examples of ways I could meet course objectives through the Credit by Individual Proposal?

A: Distance Learning (online), Educational Travel, Independent Study, Internships, Community Service, Project Based Learning, Performance, Field Experience, etc.

Q: Who grades my work?

A: A district committee of teachers and administrators.

Q: What happens if I fail my Credit Flexibility option?

A: You would have to take the course at your high school. You may only enroll in a year-long course at the beginning of the school year. You may enroll in a semester long course at the end of the first semester if the course in question is being taught at that time. All grades awarded via Credit Flexibility will appear on your official CCS transcript. To pass your Credit Flexibility Option, you must receive a grade of 60% or higher.

**SPECIAL NOTE TO PROSPECTIVE NCAA DIVISION I STUDENT ATHLETES:**

Information sent to schools from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility Center regarding prospective Division I student-athletes and coursework taken in nontraditional classroom settings may impact school district credit flexibility plans. The NCAA guidance applies to all student-athletes entering a Division I NCAA college or university on or after Aug. 1.

Specifically, schools are advised to counsel prospective Division I student-athletes not to use the “test-out option” of credit flexibility. They also should advise students that any coursework earned via credit flexibility needs to be comparable in length, content and rigor to credits earned in a traditional classroom setting. The course also must be four-year college-preparatory in nature and have a defined time period for completion.

Although, in general, ODE recommends that districts list “credit flexibility” credits on student transcripts in the same manner as credits earned via traditional classroom settings, the NCAA requires that any credits earned through nontraditional ways (e.g., distance learning, online, credit recovery) must be so designated on the transcripts of potential Division I student athletes. Schools should note on student transcripts submitted to the NCAA for review which course credits were earned through nontraditional ways, or attach an addendum with the explanation. The designation of credits on the transcript applies only for NCAA purposes. If in doubt, contact the *NCAA Eligibility Center* for specific advice on this issue.