

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD POLICY NO. 6146.11

ADOPTED: 01/23/23

CLASSIFICATION: Curriculum/Instruction

SUBJECT: Alternative Credits Towards Graduation

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the County Board of Education and County Superintendent desire to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

With the active involvement of parents/guardians, administrators, teachers, and students, the County Board shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study required for high school graduation. These alternative means shall be made available to students. (Education Code 51225.3)

Students may fulfill any course requirement for graduation through the following:

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies (Education Code 51225.3)

Opportunities to demonstrate skills and competencies shall include, but not be limited to, challenging a course through successful completion of a VCOE-developed examination which covers course objectives. VCOE Schools and Programs shall not use results from the General Educational Development test or other state or national tests for this purpose.
2. Supervised work experience or other outside school experience in accordance with Education Code 51760.3 and 5 CCR 1635 (Education Code 51225.3)
3. Career technical education classes offered in high school (Education Code 51225.3)
4. Courses offered by regional occupational centers or programs (Education Code 51225.3)
5. Independent study (Education Code 51225.3)
6. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution (Education Code 48800, 51225.3)
7. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634 (Education Code 51440)

Upon receiving an advance, written application by the student or their parent/guardian, the County Superintendent or designee shall determine whether completion of the proposed alternative means would satisfy course requirements for graduation and what documentation shall be required, if any, to verify the student's successful completion. The County Superintendent or designee shall make

the final determination as to whether the student's completion of an alternative means is sufficient to satisfy the approved graduation requirements.

As appropriate, the County Superintendent or designee shall determine the grade to be assigned to students for the completion of any of the above alternative means. When a grade is assigned by a private school, postsecondary institution, or other educational institution for completion of coursework, that same grade shall be awarded by VCOE Schools and Programs provided that the County Superintendent or designee has determined the alternative course to be substantially equivalent to an approved course.

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

48800	Attendance at community college; advanced education
51225.3	Requirements for graduation
51243	Exemptions from requirements
51440	Veterans' education, evaluation, and credit toward high school graduation
51760.3	Work experience education