



Category: Courses
Policy: 104 Independent Directed Studies Policy
Approved date:
Revised date: August 10, 2020

Independent Directed Studies Policy

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

In conjunction with British Columbia's Ministry of Education, ASCEND Online offers students the chance to pursue curriculum in more detail, by focusing on the learning outcomes of a course that they're not taking. In doing so, ASCEND Online – through Independent Directed Studies – will grant credit towards graduation for learning that has been assessed and matches or exceeds provincial, national or international standards.

For graduation purposes, credits for Independent Directed Studies may only be used to satisfy the elective requirements. As a reminder, students must complete 16 credits of electives, along with 64 credits of required courses, in order to graduate from ASCEND Online. Grade 12 credits may count toward the minimum of 16 Grade 12 credits required for graduation.

Independent Directed Studies must be based on the learning outcomes of Ministry-Developed or Board/Authority Authorized Grade 10, 11 or 12 courses.



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PROCEDURE

Student Requirements:

To participate in this method of learning, students must:

1. Demonstrate the ability to work independently.
2. Complete an IDS Proposal Form and submit it to the ASCEND Online High School Academic Advisor.
3. With their teacher, draft an Independent Directed Study plan that includes:
 - i. a process for ongoing facilitation and assessment.
 - ii. criteria for determining successful completion.
 - iii. a credit value (1, 2, 3 or 4 credits) for the proposed IDS.

Proposal:

A student who is interested in pursuing an IDS must draft a plan and submit it to the High School Academic Advisor of ASCEND Online. The Academic Advisor will consult with a school based team to determine approval of the proposal. The school based team may be comprised of any or all of the following members: High School Advisor, Principal, Vice-Principal, High School teacher(s), previous K-9 Contact Teacher (to help determine suitability of student requirement #1 above).



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PROPOSAL FOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTED STUDY:

Date of Application: _____

Curriculum area to be addressed: _____

Student Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Student PEN Number: _____ (can be obtained from the school)

Mailing Address:

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Current Grade Level: _____ Birthdate: _____ Sex: M F

I have talked to the following teachers/school personnel about proposing an IDS course:

- I have drafted a plan for my proposed IDS and am attaching it to this proposal request.
- I understand that I will work with my assigned teacher for ongoing facilitation and assessment of my IDS.
- I have demonstrated in the past, and am prepared to continue to be, an independent learner.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature)

Academic Advisor Signature

Principal Signature (verifying approval)

Name of teacher to oversee the course (to be assigned by the Academic Advisor):

Remember to attach a detailed IDS plan to this proposal (next page)



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IDS Plan

*note: please contact High School Academic Advisor, Joshua Schweitzer (jschweitzer@ascendonline.ca), if you require assistance completing this plan

Subject area:

Big Idea(s) to be explored:

Curricular content (topic):

Curricular competencies:

Assessment methods to be used:

Other information:



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