

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM

Patrick County Public Schools offers a wide variety of online courses for credit recovery and credit accrual. All courses offered by PCPS are aligned to the Virginia Standards of Learning provided by the Virginia Department of Education or Advance Placement approved classes that will count for credit toward a Virginia high school diploma. Courses are offered at no cost to students during the regular school year. Students should consult their school counselor to determine if and which online options are most appropriate for their academic plan.

The Credit Recovery Program serves students who have not successfully earned credit in the traditional classroom setting. This format allows for repeat instruction to be provided in half the instructional hours as a new credit course. More specifically, semester courses awarding 1.0 unit of credit must provide no less than 140 clock hours of instruction; however, the same course as a repeat course under the credit recovery format meets for no less than 70 hours. Only students who have previously failed a course, and have had that failure reflected on his/her academic record, are eligible to enroll in a repeat course under the credit recovery format.

Students enrolled in the program will take online, core content classes in the areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies and/or select elective offerings through a Web-based instructional program. Students have the opportunity to proceed at his or her own pace until the student reaches the pre-established completion date.

Online courses are monitored by a licensed teacher. Online courses can often be accelerated because the instruction and assignments are accessible to students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The program enables students who may not have been successful in traditional classroom settings to achieve academic success using an online instructional delivery model.

Students who are referred or apply for admission and are accepted into Credit Recovery must adhere to a contract that is collaboratively reviewed and signed by the student, parent/guardian, counselor, and principal. The contract outlines the guidelines for participation in Credit Recovery.

Students who register for repeat courses under the credit recovery format are taking those courses officially for credit. If a student fails such a course, that student will earn an "F," (69 numerical grade), and it will be reflected on the student's academic record.

The summer high school program may offer a Credit Recovery Program that allows a student to earn a credit in a course that the student has previously failed. Students will not be allowed to enroll in more than one course at a time during the summer session.

Guidelines for Credit Recovery Program Participation

Due to the nature of independent work and computer usage required for participation in credit recovery, students shall be required to sign a behavior contract and adhere to the rules and regulations of Patrick County Public Schools (PCPS) “Code of Student Conduct.”

An online, approved instructional program that is aligned to the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests to deliver instruction will be utilized. Students may earn credit in classes in all four core content areas and select elective offerings. Teacher/facilitators, certified in the content/elective area, shall be available to provide direction and guidance. It is the responsibility of the building/summer principal to certify that the PCPS High School Online Credit Recovery Program Handbook guidelines are implemented within the parameters set forth in this regulation.

A diagnostic assessment is administered and a prescribed, individualized program is provided for each student who participates in the program. A 75% pass rate must be achieved to meet mastery level and is required to receive credit for the course.

In addition, if the course has a corresponding SOL end-of-course test, the student must receive a “pass” or pass/advanced” score to receive a verified credit for the course. For courses in science and social studies, the student may be considered as receiving a passing score if he/she meets the test score requirements for a Locally Awarded Verified Unit (attempting the test twice and scoring between 375-399 on one attempt). The only exception to the SOL end-of-course test requirement will be for those students that have Individualized Education Plans, and are pursuing a Modified Standard Diploma, in which the SOL end-of-course tests are not required for graduation.

Grading

Upon successful completion of the course, students are awarded credit. The previously failed course grade will not be removed from the transcript or changed. Students receive a pass (85 numerical grade) or a fail (69 numerical grade) for the recovery course.

Process for Recording the Grade

Schools shall enter a repeat tag that awards a credit for the completed course. The student’s grade-point average will not be affected. The school enters the repeated class in course history and selects a repeat tag.

Virginia High School League (VHSL) Eligibility

Students may use credits earned in the Credit Recovery Program to determine or change eligibility for VHSL sponsored activities.

Implementation and Monitoring

The Director of Instruction is responsible for monitoring the implementation of this regulation. The Director of Instruction is responsible for reviewing this regulation and the PCPS High School Online Credit Recovery Program Handbook annually.