



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**School District No. 57**  
2100 Ferry Avenue  
Prince George, B.C. V2L 4R5  
(250) 561-6800

# POLICY 6141.35

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## COURSE CHALLENGE

APPROVED: 1997.05.06  
REVISED: 1999.04.27

### ***POLICY***

The Board of Education recognized that relevant learning can be acquired by students outside the school system. Course challenge is an acceptable avenue for students to have prior undocumented learning acknowledged and to receive credit for this learning.

### ***DEFINITIONS:***

“**Course challenge**” is a process by which students demonstrate that they can meet the learning outcomes of a Grade 11 or 12 provincially or locally developed course to the same standard as students who take the course through regular classes.

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Responsibility Centre: Schools Department  
References: *School Act*, Sections 75 and 85

COURSE CHALLENGE

***PREAMBLE***

Procedures need to be in place for students to challenge courses. The purpose of challenge is to permit students to obtain full credits for a course (Grade 11 or 12) without having to take the course when they can provide strong and compelling evidence that they have acquired the appropriate learning elsewhere.

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Approved: 1999.04.27



COURSE CHALLENGE**REGULATIONS:**

1. Only students enrolled in School District No. 57 are eligible to challenge a course.
2. Students must apply for a course challenge. The readiness and relevancy for a challenge to proceed will be determined by the school in consultation with the student and parent(s).
3. A course challenge is a two-stage process:
  - 3.1 When a student is able to give compelling evidence that he or she will succeed in a challenge assessment.
  - 3.2 When a student demonstrates that he or she has successfully met the learning outcomes prescribed for the provincially or locally developed course.
4. Challenges must adhere to school and district policy and procedures.
5. Students must challenge the full course. The exception to this is the 30-hour work experience component of CAPP 12.
6. The course challenge must be linked to the student learning plan.
7. Students cannot challenge courses they have previously taken or courses for which they have received credit for similar learning outcomes (i.e., take English 12 and then challenge Communications 12).
8. Students will be granted only one opportunity to challenge a specific course.
9. The following courses may be challenged:
  - 9.1 Locally or provincially developed two- and four-credit courses at the Grade 11 or 12 level.
  - 9.2 Courses currently being taught in School District No. 57 schools.
  - 9.3 Provincially examinable subjects.
    - 9.3.1 Students must successfully challenge the school portion (60%) before they write the provincial examination.
    - 9.3.2 Students must write the provincial examination (40%) at scheduled examination times.
  - 9.4 The 30-hour work experience component of CAPP 12.



COURSE CHALLENGE

10. Externally developed courses recognized for credit by the ministry cannot be challenged (e.g. International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement).
11. Course challenge cannot be used to upgrade existing marks in a course.
12. Students will be awarded credit for a successful challenge and will receive a letter grade and percentage for the course as per ministry reporting policy.
13. The final decision to award credit will be approved by the principal.
14. Students will be assessed charge for each course challenged in accordance with the fee schedule approved by the Board annually. An exception will be made for the 30-hour work experience component of CAPP 12.

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COURSE CHALLENGE**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES:**

1. Schools will develop challenge procedures within ministry and district guidelines. These procedures should ensure equity of student access.
2. Procedures will be communicated to students and parents through regular school communication channels.
3. Considering timetabling and resources available, schools will establish and communicate appropriate timelines for challenges.
4. Schools will ensure that:
  - 4.1 Course safety expectations and applicable safety procedures as per WHMIS and WCB are learned and examined.
  - 4.2 A variety of assessment strategies will be used to attain a reliable evaluation of understanding and achievement as measured against the prescribed learning outcomes of the course.
5. Schools are not required to offer challenge opportunities until one year after new curricula are scheduled for full implementation.
6. Schools are required to accept challenge only for courses taught in their school and for students registered in their school. However, they may facilitate challenges for students from other schools.

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Approved: 1997.05.06

