



Challenge for Credit Option

Park West School Division recognizes that students may, in exceptional circumstances, have already acquired the knowledge, skills and attitudes of a particular course.

Challenge for Credit Option provides a process for such students to apply prior knowledge in a particular subject area by demonstrating achievement in the learning outcomes, as defined in the Manitoba curriculum, of that particular course/specialty and receive credit for it.

This option is intended to serve particular needs such as:

- Students who, by virtue of special talents or private study, can be accelerated in a particular subject area
- Students transferring into a Manitoba school from another jurisdiction whose placement in a subject grade would be facilitated by such a provision
- Students who are exceptional achievers in a certain area of study and demonstrate an academic record which shows an exceptional level of competency in the area of study being challenged
- Students who can demonstrate that they have met course requirements through life experiences such as independent study, world of work, volunteer activities and hobbies.

Guidelines:

1. Challenge for Credit may be used from Senior 1 to 4.
2. Guidelines do not apply to the following options:
 - Special Language Credit
 - Private Music Option
 - Cadet Credit
 - Community Service Credit
3. Challenge for Credit Option for a particular course may include a combination of assessment strategies and skill demonstration models to ensure adequate demonstration of achieving learning outcomes with a reliable evaluation of such achievement. It should allow a student to demonstrate prior learning in an appropriate way.
4. To complete a core course challenge, a student is required to write the provincial standards test.



5. Students who have previously received a final mark are not eligible to challenge that credit.
6. Students who challenge the credit may subsequently choose to take the course.
7. Students can attempt a course challenge only once.
8. Students who successfully demonstrate they have acquired learning outcomes for a particular course through the Challenge would be awarded a final course mark and credit.
9. Only in exceptional circumstances will a student attempt to challenge multiple courses but there is no limit to the number of courses a student may challenge.
10. Students must be enrolled in the school division to be eligible for the Challenge For Credit Option.
11. A school will not charge a student or the family a fee for administering course challenges provided the student is registered at one home school within the division.
12. School division is not obliged to provide challenge for provincial courses which are not taught in the division.

School Responsibilities:

1. Provide opportunity for Challenge for Credit Option when necessary.
2. Determine the student's readiness for the Option through collaboration and consultation of a team led by the principal. The team shall include student, parent/guardian, subject area teacher and resource teacher whose consultation will provide evidence that the student has a reasonable possibility to meet the learning outcomes of the course.
3. The school team, consisting of principal, subject area teacher, resource teacher and any other staff as required will ensure that the assessment strategies for the course challenged reflects the breath and scope of the learning outcomes in the curriculum document.
4. This plan will be communicated to student and parent/guardian prior to April 15.



5. The school team will establish procedures to communicate to student and parent/guardian the availability, procedures, objectives and assessment plan for the course challenge.
6. The principal will assign the administration and evaluation of assessment for the course challenge to a certified teacher.
7. The school will grant students, who successfully complete a challenge, equivalent credit for the course. The mark is to be submitted to Manitoba Education

Student Responsibilities:

1. Students must submit Notice of Intent form to the principal no later than March 15.
2. Students must provide reasonable evidence that they have some likelihood of completing the challenge successfully.
3. Students must comply with the division procedure for Challenge for Credit Option.

Timelines for Process:

March 15	Notice of Intent Form completed and submitted to Principal
April 1	Plan for Challenge prepared by team available for student and parent/guardian Review prior to agreement
April 15	Letter of Agreement completed and submitted to Principal.
June 1	Assessment Strategies Final Report Form completed by Teacher and submitted to Principal (or when Provincial standards test results have been established)