

StudentsAssignment of Students: Grade Placement and Transfer StudentsAssignment of Students

It shall be the responsibility of the administration to determine academic placement decisions involving students, including situations where students transfer into Douglas County West Community Schools from other educational settings. The District reserves the right to make the most appropriate grade level placement, class placement and teacher assignment for students which best fulfills the needs of the students and the school district.

Grade Level Placement and Credits

Students who enter the District shall be required to present transfer documents and such records as the administration determines appropriate, indicating grade placement, courses completed, and special needs or accommodations, and may be required to complete achievement test to determine appropriate placement.

Placement decisions will consider whether the student is transferring from a school which is accredited or approved. An “accredited” or “approved” school is one which was accredited or approved by the Nebraska Department of Education and, for schools from other states, is a school which is accredited or approved by that state’s department of education, meeting requirements which are the same or equivalent as those of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Transfers from Accredited or Approved Schools

Students transferring from accredited or approved schools will initially be placed in the next grade level above that which the student last successfully completed, or for transfers during the school year, in the same grade level as the student was at prior to the transfer. Credits earned at an accredited or approved school will be accepted by the Douglas County West Community Schools. A student who enrolls during the school year shall be given the opportunity to earn full credit for the courses in which the student is enrolled if the student is able to demonstrate mastery of the subject matter and/or completion of course requirements, other than attendance, at a level required for other students to receive credit who have been enrolled throughout the period for which the credit is to be granted. The administration may use a review of transcripts from prior schools attended, standardized tests, assessments, and/or teacher evaluations of student competency in the subject matter to make such a determination.

Transfers from Non-Accredited or Approved Schools

Students transferring from schools which are not accredited or approved (e.g., home schools) will be placed at a grade level to be determined by the administration based on consideration of the following factors:

1. Student’s chronological age.
2. Transcript review
3. Testing (achievement test data; diagnostic test data; and/or criterion referenced test data)

## 4. Teacher evaluation of student competency

Credits earned at a school which is not accredited or approved will not be accepted by the Douglas County West Community Schools. However, the administration may, in its discretion and subject to regulatory requirements, grant a student credits towards meeting graduation requirements for core curriculum courses (not elective courses) completed by the student in a non-accredited or non-approved school if the student is able to demonstrate mastery of the subject matter and completion of course requirements, other than attendance, at a level required for other students to receive credit and to demonstrate that the student has received instruction in such course(s) comparable to that which the student would have received by attending an accredited or approved school. The administration may use a review of transcripts from prior schools attended, standardized tests, assessments, and/or teacher evaluations of student competency in the subject matter to make such a determination. The same criteria will be used for determining whether to grant credit to such a student who enrolls during the year.

Class Rank and Graduation

It shall be the responsibility of the High School Principal to determine academic grade point average, class rank and eligibility for graduation, subject to review by the Superintendent.

Grade point average (G.P.A.) shall be maintained for the 9th through 12th grades. Courses taken prior to 9th grade are not considered for G.P.A. purposes.

Pass/fail grades will be assigned to those courses in which students are granted credit when they begin attending Douglas County West Community Schools.

Class rank is maintained for the 9th through 12th grades. Class rank is based on the Douglas County West Community Schools G.P.A. To be considered for class ranking and any honors or awards which are based on class rank or G.P.A. (e.g., Valedictorian), students must complete a minimum of four semesters of attendance at Douglas County West Community Schools. To receive a diploma from Douglas County West Community Schools students must complete at least 30 credit hours of courses taken at Douglas County West Community Schools and students who have transferred from a school which is not accredited or approved must earn a minimum of two years' credit in an approved or accredited senior high school, grades 10-12, with the final semester's credit being earned in this school district.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-526 and 79-729;  
Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 10 and February 1993  
"NDE Position Statement Regarding Reintegration of Rule 13 Students to Accredited Schools"

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