

YOUTH OPTIONS PROGRAM

- I. High school students in 11th or 12th grade who meet the eligibility requirements defined in applicable state laws and regulations, and who submit timely applications and notices, may participate in the Youth Options Program and enroll in one or more courses at an institution of higher education (e.g., a university of Wisconsin system institution or a private college or university participating in the program) or at a technical college.
- II. If any of the application procedures, eligibility requirements, and necessary determinations related to course comparability, course credit, or payment are not addressed in this policy, the District's Youth Options Program will be administered according to the requirements of applicable state laws and regulations.
- III. The Director of Instruction Administrator, in collaboration with the high school guidance staff, shall administer the Youth Options Program in the District. The administrator of the Youth Options Program has authority to define and implement specific procedures for the program. In addition, subject to an appeal to the Superintendent, the program administrator has authority to determine whether any post-secondary course taken through the program is comparable to a course offered in the District, whether it satisfies high school graduation requirements, and what, if any, high school credits will be awarded to the student. Per the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, one (1) semester credit offered for a post-secondary course is equivalent to one-quarter (.25) high school credit. The administrator of the Youth Options Program shall deny high school credit for a post-secondary course for any of the reasons permitted by applicable laws and regulations.
- IV. The District will pay the costs associated with students' enrollment in a technical college or higher education course under the Youth Options Program if the course is taken for high school credit and the course is not comparable to a course offered in the District, as determined by the Director of Instruction and High School Principal. The District shall pay only such fees and tuition, materials, and equipment costs as are required by law. When the District is required to purchase a textbook or similar resource for a student's course, the student shall be required to return the materials to the District upon completion of the course.
- V. The District shall pay for no more than the equivalent of 18 (eighteen) post-secondary semester credits per student through the Youth Options Program.
- VI. If a student receives a failing grade in a course, or fails to complete a course, at an institution of higher education or technical college for which the District has made a payment of tuition or other costs, the student's parent or guardian, or the student if he/she is an adult, shall reimburse the District for the amount paid on the student's behalf. If such reimbursement is not provided to the District upon request, the student shall be ineligible for any further participation in the Youth Options Program.

- VII. If the student attending courses at a technical college under this program is a student with a disability, the Board shall pay the costs of any special services required for the student as determined jointly by the District and technical college. However, the Director of Special Services shall have the authority to determine whether the costs for any special services to be provided to a student with a disability while attending a technical college under the Youth Options Program constitute an undue financial burden on the District and, if so, to deny the student permission to attend the technical college under the program.
- VIII. Good academic standing in the District is required to determine a student's eligibility to enroll in a youth options course, which means the student must not have a failing grade or any unexcused absences in the semester immediately prior to applying to take a Youth Options Program course; and the student has not been identified as a habitual truant during his/her high school career; and the student is making satisfactory progress toward graduation.
- IX. All 9th, 10th and 11th grade students shall be informed of the Youth Options Program annually through the high school course catalogue and the Counseling Department webpage.

Legal reference:
Sections 118.33, 118.55, Wis. Stats.
P.I. 40, Wis. Adm. Code

Cross reference:
Administrative Guideline 2271 – Youth Options Program Procedures
Board Policy 2260 – Access to Equal Educational Opportunities
Board Policy 5460 – Graduation Requirements

Adopted: 6/18/01
Rev. 10/11/04; 9/11/06; 3/14/11; 1/13/14; 12/08/14; 3/12/15

The Port Washington-Saukville School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Special Services, Port Washington-Saukville School District, 100 W. Monroe Street, Port Washington, WI 53074 - Duane.Woelfel@pwssd.k12.wi.us