

April 6, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Perquimans County Schools has implemented the Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM) program. This program will afford students the opportunity to earn high school course credit by a demonstration of mastery in the course curriculum.

Students and parents must complete an application in order to begin the Credit by Demonstrated Mastery process, which will occur in two separate phases.

**Phase I:** Students will take the appropriate exam for the subject. Please contact your child's guidance counselor for more information. Students must score a Level V on an EOC or a minimum of a 90 on the CTE Exam. Students meeting these criteria will continue into Phase II.

**Phase II:** Students will create an artifact that reflects deep understanding of the content standards including the ability to apply the skills and knowledge expected at the end of the course. This may require a presentation, project, interview, portfolio, etc. Upon acceptable completion, the CDM committee will then make a recommendation for the student to earn credit.

**Considerations:**

If the student is successful, the course will be recorded on the transcript as a College Prep level course with a grade of "Pass". The course will count toward meeting graduation requirements, but no numerical grade or quality points will be granted. The Grade Point Average will not be affected. If the student is not successful, neither the course nor the grade will be reflected on the transcript or other school records.

For student athletes, the primary consideration with respect to earning CDM is maintaining eligibility if participating in high school athletics. According to the NCHSAA, students must ensure they are enrolled in a number of courses that is at least equal to one less than the maximum number of courses available per high school schedule.

According to the NCAA, since the CDM procedure does not assign a letter grade, the courses would not be used in the initial-eligibility process.

Community colleges in North Carolina recognize students with a diploma as high school graduates regardless of the presence of credits earned via CDM. This ensures a student's ability to enroll in a community college through graduation. Students should anticipate that decisions regarding credit for academic courses will be made on a case-by-case basis, so students are not guaranteed a particular outcome with respect to high school credits earned through the CDM policy.


The University of North Carolina System has traditionally accepted the State Board of Education's authority to determine how students earn high school credit toward graduation. Students with a diploma from a North Carolina high school will be recognized as high school graduates regardless of the credits earned via the CDM policy. Minimum admission requirements must be satisfied.

Credits earned through CDM may not be accepted by outside organizations, such as the NCHSAA, NCCCS, UNC-GA and NCAA. Each organization will handle CDM within its own parameters, which includes universities in other states.

When students successfully earn CDM for a CTE course, the credit shall be included in the required credits to earn CTE concentrations. Students should be aware that awarding articulated credit at the community college requires both a course grade of at least a B and a post-assessment score of 93 or higher. At this time, students who request credit without completing the course will not be eligible for articulated credit.

Please see your school counselor for course updates and application information for the Credit by Demonstrated Mastery program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melissa P. Fields". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light blue rectangular background.

Melissa P. Fields  
Chief Academic Officer