

## Distance Education – Virtual School Credit

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The Board of Education believes that distance education through virtual/online courses is an alternative effective means of instruction for students. A virtual school is hereby defined as an educational organization that offers courses at various grade levels through Internet or Web-based methods. These schools offer courses to enhance, supplement or enrich the existing curriculum and can also provide an alternative means of instruction. Kittatinny Regional School District will only allow these services to be utilized for credit recovery and satisfaction of the 2.5 credit Personal Finance Literacy requirement by the New Jersey Department of Education only. Interactive distance learning does not require the student to be physically present in the same location as the instructor or other students. Distance education courses will be part of this District's educational program delivery system to increase accessibility and flexibility in the delivery of instruction. In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students in the District may earn credit through distance education provided by virtual/online courses.

All virtual education programs and courses will be consistent with District instructional goals and aligned with New Jersey's core curriculum standards and curriculum frameworks and assessments, and accredited by the New Jersey Department of Education. The Director of Guidance, in concert with the department supervisors and Guidance Counselors will periodically review instructional materials of virtual/online courses to ensure they meet program standards. Further, such courses must provide the opportunity for rigor and substantial, timely interactions among staff and students.

The District will only integrate distance education opportunities as part of the regular instruction for **credit recovery** provided by an approved online distance educational provider. High school students may not earn academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing online courses through agencies approved by the Board unless it is a specific credit recovery circumstance approved by the administrative personnel in the Guidance area or other designee (i.e. School Principal or Superintendent)

Online educational credit is not meant to supplement or supplant the regular educational program established by the Board and such credit services cannot be utilized to replace the current graduation requirements for the students of Kittatinny Regional School District.

All student applications will be submitted to the Director of Guidance for prior approval for credit recovery. All costs associated with this program, including monitoring costs for mid-terms and finals, will be the sole responsibility of the student and or the parent/guardian.

### Legal References

<u>N.J.S.A</u>	18A:7A-5d, e	Major elements; guidelines
<u>N.J.S.A</u>	18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
<u>N.J.S.A</u>	18A:38-1, -25	Attendance at school free of charge ...
<u>N.J.A.C</u>	6:8-1.1	Words and phrases defined
<u>N.J.A.C</u>	6:8-4.3(a) 3vi, 3vii	Evaluation of elements and standards (curriculum and instruction)
<u>N.J.A.C</u>	6:8-4.3(a) 4iii	Evaluation of elements and standards (pupil attendance)
<u>N.J.A.C</u>	6:8-7.1(d), (f) 3,4	Promotion and high school graduation requirements
<u>N.J.A.C</u>	6:28-1.1(b) 1	General requirements
<u>Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts</u> (P.T.M. No. 700, 7, Revised July, 1988)		

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Possible Cross References:

5113	Absences and excuses
5114	Suspension and expulsion / pupil due process
5199	Transfers; withdrawals
5134	Married / pregnant pupils
6142.12	Vocational / industrial / occupational education
6164.2	Guidance Services
6164.4	Child Study Team
6171.4	Handicapped
6173	Home Instruction
*6171.3	At-risk and Title 1
*6171.4	Special education
6300	Evaluation of the instructional program

\* Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual

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