



Renaissance Academy

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No.
SECTION:
TITLE: Dual Enrollment Agreements
with Institutions of Higher Education
Reading Date: May 18, 2023
Mandated Implementation Date: July
2023

Dual Enrollment Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education

1 PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) recognizes the importance of providing students with the opportunity to succeed in both secondary and post-secondary educational pursuits. Accordingly, it shall be the Policy of Renaissance Academy Charter School (the “Charter School”) pursuant to 24 P.S. §15-1525, that the Charter School enter into a Dual Enrollment Agreement (“Agreement”) with an Institution of Higher Education approved to operate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in order to allow students to attend the Institution of Higher Education while the students are enrolled in the Charter School.

2 DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The High School Principal will determine appropriate partnerships, offerings and opportunities for dual credit enrollment as it aligns to the Mission of Renaissance Academy.

Academic counseling staff will review dual credit offerings with students eligible for enrollment and support recommendations for courses to meet needs of high school graduation.

3 PROCEDURES

COVERAGE:

This Policy shall cover any Agreement between the Charter School and an Institution of Higher Education approved to operate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Commonwealth") which satisfies the requirements of 24 P.A. §15-1525 and which allows for dual enrollment of secondary school students enrolled in the Charter School in an Institution of Higher Education for the purpose of receiving credit(s).

Agreements:

The Charter School Administration is tasked with seeking out and obtaining proposals for Agreements for presentation and approval by the Board.

Any Agreement covered by this Policy shall be between the Charter School and an Institution of Higher Education approved to operate in the Commonwealth.

Any Agreement covered by this Policy shall be structured so that secondary school students receive credit at or through an Institution of Higher Education approved to operate in the Commonwealth.

The Charter School shall enter into and/or renew at least one (1) such Agreement on or before July 31, 2023, and each school year thereafter.

The Charter School, upon Board approval may enter into additional Agreements with additional Institutions of Higher Education approved to operate in the Commonwealth.

An Agreement covered by this Policy shall outline, with specificity, ALL requirements for a secondary school student seeking enrollment and/or admission to the Institution of Higher Education including, but not limited to, the deadlines for application, any and all required documentation to accompany an application, and/or any applicable GPA and/or grade-level requirements for admission.

An Agreement covered by this Policy shall outline, with specificity, ALL costs and fees for a secondary school student attending an Institution of Higher Education, including, but not limited to: application costs, tuition, fees, transportation costs, cost of supplies and/or related materials. The Agreement shall provide which portion of the outlined costs will be covered by the Institution of Higher Education, the Charter School and/or the secondary school student.

An Agreement covered by this Policy shall outline, with specificity, any and all steps to be taken by the Institution of Higher Education, the Charter School and/or the secondary school student to ensure the safety of the secondary school student while attending the Institution of Higher Education including, but not limited to, the means of transportation to and from the Institution of Higher Education, the facilities which the secondary student may be permitted to access, and/or the supports, and/or services available to the secondary school student.

Courses and Credits:

The Credits earned under an Agreement covered by this Policy shall be the same credits offered to postsecondary school students enrolled at the Institution of Higher Education.

Under an Agreement covered by this Policy, secondary school students may also receive credits toward the completion of courses required by the Charter School for graduation.

An Agreement covered by this Policy shall allow secondary school students to attend courses at an Institution of Higher Education in-person, online, or a combination of in-person and online.

When possible, the courses for which a secondary school student receives credit under an Agreement covered by this Policy shall be aligned to the graduation requirements of the Charter School.

Credits received by a secondary school student attending an Institution of Higher Education under an Agreement covered by this Policy shall be weighed in a manner similar to Advanced Placement Program credits in the Charter School's grading system for academic courses.

When possible, the courses offered by an Institution of Higher Education through an Agreement covered by this Policy shall supplement and not supplant courses offered by the Charter School to secondary school students.

The secondary school student shall be responsible for complying with the requirements of the Institution of Higher Education for transfer of credits to the Charter School upon successful course completion.

Admissions and Enrollment:

A secondary school student seeking to enroll in a course at an Institution of Higher Education under an Agreement covered by this Policy must obtain prior approval from the Charter School before beginning the application and/or enrollment process.

A secondary school student seeking to enroll in a course at an Institution of Higher Education under an Agreement covered by this Policy must meet the specific requirements of the Institution of Higher Education as set forth in the Agreement, including, but not limited to timeliness requirements for submission of applications, enrollment forms, letters of recommendation and/or transcripts, GPA requirements and/or grade-level requirements.

The Charter School reserves the right to prohibit a secondary school student from enrolling in a course at an Institution of Higher Education under an Agreement covered by this Policy for any reason, including, but not limited to, failure to meet the specific requirements of the Institution of Higher Education, previous failure of the course, failure to obtain prior approval from the Charter School for enrollment, and/or previous failure to complete required coursework.

Reporting:

No later than July 31, 2023, and every school year thereafter, the Charter School shall provide to the Pennsylvania Department of Education the number and form of Agreements entered into under this Policy, the number of secondary school students participating in Agreements covered by this Policy, and the total number of credits earned.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.