



CHALLENGE AND EQUIVALENCY POLICY

Policy Type: Administrative
Applies To: All Students
Approved By: Lead Principal
Policy Reviewed: every 2 years
Adopted: 2013
Revisions: 2014, 2024

PURPOSE:

DEFINITIONS:

Challenge is undocumented demonstrated prior learning. Students are entitled to use Challenge to receive credit for Ministry-Authorized or Board /Authority Authorized Grade 10, 11 or 12 courses. The following courses at MRCS are exempted from consideration: Planning 10, Christianity & Culture 12 and Biblical Foundations 12.

Equivalency is documenting prior learning. Students are entitled to use equivalency to receive credit for Ministry-Authorized or Board /Authority Authorized Grade 10, 11 or 12 courses completed from an educational jurisdiction or institution outside the BC school system. The following courses at Maple Ridge Christian School (MRCS) are exempted from consideration: Christianity & Culture 12 and Biblical Foundations 12.

PROCEDURES:

CHALLENGE

MRCS will review any documentation of prior learning that a student presents in order to determine if credit can be awarded through equivalency.

A student may challenge a course if he/she:

- Is currently enrolled in the school, registered as a home-schooled, or enrolled in the distance education school where the challenge is being requested.



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- Has not completed the course or its equivalent learning outcomes through previous enrolment.
 - Can give compelling evidence that he/she will succeed in the challenge

The Challenge Process

The challenge process begins when:

- It is determined that credit cannot be awarded through equivalency
- The student has given compelling evidence that he/she will succeed in a challenge assignment.

In order to receive credit for a *course that does not have a required exam*, a student must:

- Obtain at least a C- (50% minimum) grade/score in the challenge course assignment.

In order to receive credit for a *course that has a required exam*, a student must:

- Complete the challenge process through MRCS and have a passing school percentage reported to the Ministry.
- Write the provincial exam at one of the scheduled exam times set by the Ministry.
- Obtain a final mark in the course of at least a C-(50% minimum) based on the combination of the school mark (based on the challenge) and exam mark. The minimum passing score is the same as for students enrolled in the course.

Reporting a Successful Challenge:

When a student receives course credits through challenge, the school percentage and letter grade will be reported to the Ministry, along with the code "C" in the "Course Type" field.

EQUIVALENCY



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MRCS will award credit through equivalency following the procedures of the board of education

For the purpose of determining equivalency, comparison of courses may be based on factors such as the following:

- comparison of learning
- comparison of general subject matter
- comparison of depth or breadth of coverage of subject matter
- comparison of assessment methods, instruments and standards.

To be deemed equivalent, there should be a match of approximately 80 percent or more of the learning outcomes to either a Ministry-developed or Board Authorized Grade 10, 11 or 12 course.

In order to receive credits through equivalency, students must provide the appropriate documentation as proof of successful completion of the course.

Reporting a Successful Challenge:

MRCS will assign a letter grade and percentage to all credits awarded through equivalency. If the student's documents show only a letter grade or level, MRCS may choose to assign a percentage, based on the mid-point of the matching British Columbia letter grade range. MRCS may use "Transfer Standing" (TS) if it is not possible to determine a letter grade and a percentage from the documentation.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

CHALLENGE

MRCS will cooperate to allow students to challenge courses within our school and those courses which are not being offered by our school.



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MRCS will document the challenge assessment delivered to each student, including a pre-challenge equivalency review.

MRCS will make challenge available for Board/Authority Authorized Grade 10, 11, or 12 courses offered within our school. Ministry courses will be available for challenge one year after full implementation of the IRP.

No fees will be associated with the challenge process. If fees are accrued by MRCS when enrolling a new student challenging a course in another school district, then MRCS will pay these fees.

MRCS will accept and review challenge applications at the beginning of every semester.

MRCS will register a student for a provincial exam if the course challenged has a required exam.

EQUIVALENCY

MRCS will not charge for equivalency reviews; however, students may be asked to provide translations if documents are not in English.

MRCS will not place a limit to the number of credits students may be awarded through equivalency.

MRCS will award credit based on equivalency for Grades 10, 11 and 12 Ministry developed courses (including courses with a Graduation Program Exam) and Board Authorized courses.



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