

## COURSE CHALLENGE POLICY

Policy Type: Educational  
Applies To: Grade 10-12 students, Staff,  
Approved By: Lead Principal  
Policy Reviewed: every 2 years  
Adopted: 2013  
Revisions: 2025

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### PURPOSE

To outline how Maple Ridge Christian School (MRCS) students may receive credit through **Challenge** for demonstrated prior learning outside formal instruction.

This process recognizes learning aligned with the **BC Curriculum** and ensures consistency with Ministry policy on *Challenge, Equivalency, External Credentials, and Post-Secondary Credit*.

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### DEFINITIONS

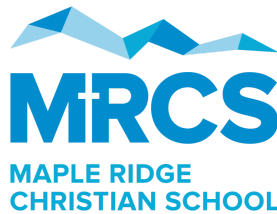
- **Challenge:** A Ministry-approved process that allows students to receive credit for a **Ministry-Authorized** or **Board/Authority Authorized** Grade 10, 11, or 12 course based on demonstrated prior learning rather than formal enrolment.
  - **Equivalency:** A process of awarding credit for **documented** prior learning that meets the learning standards of a BC Curriculum course.
  - **BC Curriculum:** The framework established by the BC Ministry of Education and Child Care that defines the learning standards, curricular competencies, and content expectations for all subjects and grades.
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### PROCEDURES

#### 1. Eligibility

A student may apply to challenge a course if they:

- Are currently enrolled at MRCS, registered as a home-schooled student, or enrolled in an affiliated distance education school.



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- Have not previously completed the course or its equivalent learning standards through enrolment or equivalency.
- Provide compelling evidence that they are likely to succeed in the challenge.

### 2. Exemptions

The following MRCS courses are **not eligible** for challenge:

- Bible 11
- Biblical Foundations 12

### 3. Application Process

- Students must first complete an **Equivalency Review** to confirm that credit cannot be awarded through documentation.
- If equivalency does not apply, the student submits a **Course Challenge Application** to the **Academic Advisor or Vice Principal of Learning and Programs**.
- Supporting evidence may include:
  - A **portfolio** of relevant work
  - **Certificates** or records of independent study
  - **Letters from employers, instructors, or organizations** verifying skill or knowledge acquisition
- Applications are typically reviewed at the **start of each semester**, though exceptions may be made at the discretion of administration.

### 4. Assessment and Evaluation

- MRCS will assess each challenge individually and document both the pre-challenge review and assessment results.
- Assessments will be designed by the **relevant department** and must align with the **learning standards on the BC Curriculum website** (<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>).
- Students must demonstrate proficiency through assignments, projects, performance tasks, or exams confirming mastery of learning standards.
- A **minimum final mark of 50% (C-)** is required to earn credit.



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- The assessment record will be maintained in the student's file in compliance with Ministry documentation requirements.
  - 5. **Courses with Required Provincial Assessments**
    - If a Ministry graduation assessment or external exam is required, the student must complete both the MRCS challenge process and the Ministry assessment.
    - The final course mark will include both the school-assigned challenge mark and the Ministry assessment mark.
    - A **minimum combined grade of 50% (C-)** is required for credit.
  - 6. **Fees**
    - There are **no fees** for courses challenged within MRCS.
    - If the student requests to challenge a course not offered at MRCS (e.g., through another district or authority), **associated fees are the responsibility of the student**, unless otherwise approved by administration.
  - 7. **Reporting**
    - Successfully challenged courses will be reported with the student's percentage and letter grade, and identified with the code "**C**" in the "Course Type" field for Ministry reporting.

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## RESPONSIBILITIES

### MRCS Administration:

- Ensure all challenges comply with current **BC Ministry of Education and Child Care** policy.
- Maintain documentation of pre-challenge review, assessment, and outcome.
- Register students for required provincial assessments.
- Communicate results to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.



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### Students:

- Submit requests and documentation within established timelines.
- Complete all required assessments as determined by the academic department.

### REFERENCES

- BC Ministry of Education and Child Care: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>
- BC Ministry of Education Policy: *Challenge, Equivalency, External Credentials, and Post-Secondary Credit*
- MRCS Equivalency Policy
- MRCS High School Summative Assessment Policy