
SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Section PROGRAM

Policy Name PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION 610
FOR MATURE STUDENTS

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POLICY

In accordance with provincial Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) No. 132, Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) for Mature Students, individuals may challenge for the purpose of granting equivalency credits for Grade 9 or 10 courses and assessment of credentials and other appropriate documentation from jurisdictions within and outside Ontario for the purpose of granting equivalency credits for Grade 11 or 12 courses. The process for the granting of these equivalent credits is outlined in in *Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12: Policy and Program Requirements 2016* (Section 7.2.5.2).

DEFINITIONS

“Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)” is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby mature students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school. Students may have their knowledge and skills evaluated against the expectations outlined in provincial curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits towards the secondary school diploma. For mature students the PLAR process may involve two components for each of: grades 9, 10 and grades 11, 12. For grades 9, 10, the two components are individual assessment and/or equivalency. For grades 11, 12, the two components are equivalency and/or challenge.

“Challenge” means process whereby the mature student’s prior learning is assessed for the purpose of granting credit for Grade 11 or 12 courses.

“Equivalency” is the process of assessing credentials from other jurisdictions, workplace and other institutions of learning and may involve individual assessment for the purpose of granting credits.

“Credits:” All credits granted through the PLAR process – that is, through either the individual assessment, challenge process or the equivalency process – must represent the same standards of achievement as credits granted to students who have taken the courses. The maximum number of credits that can be obtained from the PLAR process is twenty-six (26). A maximum of sixteen credits for grades 9 and 10 either through equivalency or individual assessment and a maximum of ten credits for grades 11 and 12 either through equivalency or challenge. Each student must earn the last four credits one of which must be ENG 4C or ENG 4E or OLC 40. No substitution is permitted.

“Mature student” means a student who is 18 years of age or older and out of day school for a minimum of one full year. Beginning February 2004, the following groups of mature students are affected by this policy:

- Mature students who are new to the Ontario secondary school system as of February 1, 2004, and who are working towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) under OSS diploma requirements.
- Mature students who were enrolled as regular day school students in the Ontario secondary school system, and were placed in Grade 9 in 1999-2000 or later, Grade 10 in 2000-2001 or later, Grade 11 in 2001-2002 or later, or Grade 12 in 2002-2003 or later; and who return to school as mature students on February 1, 2004 or later to work towards the OSSD under OSS diploma requirements.
- Mature students who were enrolled previously in the Ontario secondary school system, and were placed in Grade 9 before 1999-2000, Grade 10 before 2000-2001, Grade 11 before 2001-2002, or Grade 12 before 2002-2003; and who are working towards the OSSD under OSIS diploma requirements; or mature students who were enrolled previously in the Ontario secondary school system and who are working towards the Secondary School Graduation Diploma (SSGD).
- Mature students who were new to the Ontario secondary school system, and were enrolled as mature students in the Ontario secondary school system before February 1, 2004 who were placed in Grade 9 in 1999-2000 or later, Grade 10 in 2000-2001 or later, Grade 11 in 2001-2002 or later, or Grade 12 in 2002-2003 or later, and who are working towards the OSSD under OSS diploma requirements
- Mature students who enrolled in a secondary school prior to 1999 in Ontario may choose to be governed by this policy.