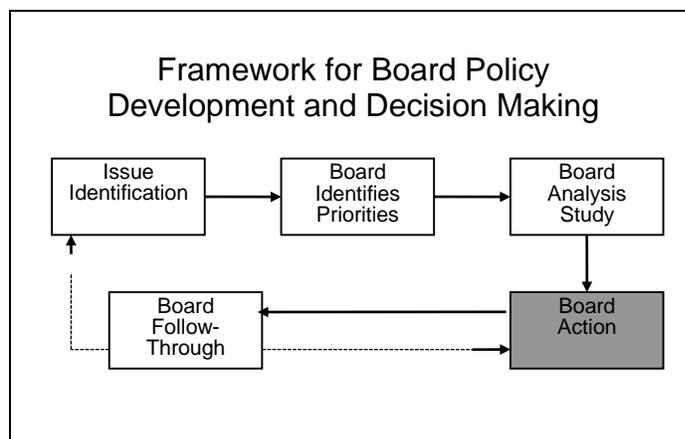


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

September 18, 2014



- Agenda Item:** Rules: 281 IAC Chapter 12 - General Accreditation Standards (Adopt)
- Iowa Goal:** All PK-12 students will achieve at a high level.
- State Board Role/ Authority:** Iowa Code section 256.7(5) gives the State Board of Education the statutory authority to adopt rules under chapter 17A.
- Presenter:** None (consent agenda)
- Attachments:** 1
- Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board amend Chapter 12.
- Background:** 281 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) section 12.5(4) provides that a school district or an accredited nonpublic school may award secondary credit towards graduation to non-high school students if the course meets certain requirements.

As directed by Senate File 2230, signed into law by the Governor on March 14, 2014, this rule strikes the requirement that such a course must be in the curricular areas of English or language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies. Under the amended rule, credit could be awarded for any course that is part of the education program of a high school under 281 IAC section 12.5(5). The effect of the amendment would be to allow credit for courses in a wider array of curricular areas.

A public hearing on this rule was held on July 29, 2014. No one attended the public hearing. No written comments on the rule were received.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT [281]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 12, “General Accreditation Standards,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed rule provides that school districts and accredited nonpublic schools have authority to grant secondary credit to non-high school students if the course meets all components listed in subrule 12.5(5) for the specific curricular area. Item 1 conforms to 2014 Iowa Acts Chapter 1013, section 2 (Senate File 2230).

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the July 9, 2014, Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 1527C**. Public comments were allowed until 4:30 p.m. on July 29, 2014. A public hearing was held on that date. No one attended the public hearing. No written comments were received regarding this amendment. This amendment is identical to that published under Notice. The preamble to the amendment was modified at the suggestion of the Administrative Rules Review Committee to make it more precise in its description of the proposed rule.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

This amendment is intended to implement 2014 Iowa Acts Chapter 1013, section 2 (Senate File 2230).

This amendment will become effective on November 19, 2014.

The following amendment is proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule **12.5(4)** as follows:

12.5(4)(1) *Secondary credit.*

(1) An individual pupil in a grade that precedes ninth grade may be allowed to take a course for secondary credit if all of the following are true:

1. The pupil satisfactorily completes the course.

~~2. The course is in the curricular area of English or language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies.~~

3.2. The course is taught by a teacher licensed by the Iowa board of educational examiners for grades 9-12 and endorsed in the subject area.

4.3. The course meets all components listed in subrule 12.5(5) for the specific curricular area.

5.4. The board of the school district or the authorities in charge of the nonpublic school have developed enrollment criteria that a student must meet to be enrolled in the course.

(2) Neither school districts nor accredited nonpublic schools are mandated to offer secondary credit under this paragraph. If credit is offered under this paragraph, the credit must apply toward graduation requirements of the district or accredited nonpublic school.