

## New Brunswick Challenge for Credit

### Rationale

Challenge for Credit is an opportunity to recognize self-motivated prior learning and to acknowledge this through the granting of a credit(s). The opportunity to challenge for credit is consistent with a view of schooling that promotes and validates learning that takes place in a variety of circumstances, including outside of the school. New Brunswick's [Portrait of a Learner](#) framework recommends providing a diversity of learning opportunities so that all students can be at their best. Challenge for Credit offers an accessible, equitable step towards fulfilling the aims for personalized learning. Challenge for Credit promotes student self-direction, among many other aspects of the [Global Competencies](#) which frame student learning and engagement in New Brunswick. It also promotes deep learning as students strive to solve real life problems that are meaningful to their communities.

### Guidelines

Available to:

- Any student currently enrolled in a New Brunswick high school.
- Students who, outside school, have met all the objectives or outcomes / requirements of a credit course.

Available for:

- Any prescribed credit course in the New Brunswick public school system in grades 11 and 12. Prescribed credit courses are listed on the [High School Curriculum Page](#) on the ONE.

Please note: Any number of credit courses may be challenged, but only two challenges will be accepted for graduation purposes.

### Application

- The student will complete the *Challenge for Credit Notice of Intent* and *Letter of Agreement* forms (Appendices A and B). The student will submit these forms to their school principal prior to, or within two weeks, of the beginning of a semester/year.
- The school must respond within two weeks of receiving the form; the challenge process should be expeditious and take no more than 10 working days.
- The student may respond to the questions in the form in the manner which best suits their skills and abilities: in writing, orally, by audio or visual recording, etc.
- If for any reason a school is not able to offer a challenge for credit opportunity, a student may request that the challenge be taken in another school in the same school district. This arrangement will be subject to the same guidelines and conditions that apply to a challenge in the student's home school.

### Assessment and Reporting

- Once the opportunity to challenge is approved, the school principal will select a pedagogical professional (either a classroom teacher or external professional) to review the Challenge for Credit application. The school guidance team and District Subject Coordinator may also provide input. The District Subject Coordinator may be considered an external professional for this process.
- Within the 10-day time frame, the reviewing educator will support the student in selecting and presenting appropriate evidence of learning. The student will provide evidence of learning congruent with the outcomes/ requirements of the identified New Brunswick credit course.
- The reviewing educator will review the evidence of learning, provide guidance and mentorship to the student, and complete the *Final Report form* (Appendix C).
- The principal will give the final approval for the challenge based on the Final Report recommendations.
- On completion of the assessment, a Pass/Fail evaluation will be made. Students who require minimal additional time to provide sufficient evidence of learning may be granted additional time without having to submit a second challenge attempt, at the discretion of the school principal.

### French as a Second Language

NB students who were enrolled in a French Immersion Program or who had previously been registered in the francophone sector are not eligible to challenge for Post Intensive French courses or French Immersion Language Arts courses at grades 11 and 12, unless they have been in Post-Intensive French from grades 6 to 10. Transfer students may work with their school administration and guidance to establish appropriate equivalency in order to challenge.

### Frequently Asked Questions

- If an external learning opportunity meets partial, but not all, course expectations, can a student challenge for credit?
  - In cases where partial credit is requested, schools will use their discretion to determine whether Challenge for Credit, Independent Study, or Personal Interest Course 1 and 2 is the most appropriate choice for that student.
- Can a Grade 9 or Grade 10 student Challenge for Credit?
  - Grade 9 and 10 students are eligible to Challenge for Credit, at the school's discretion, if they can demonstrate the learning required. Please note: Credit courses (Grade 11 and 12 courses) are the only courses that may be challenged.
- Can an external learning opportunity receive more than one credit?
  - If the learning opportunity is sufficiently rigorous and meets the criteria for more than one credit course, a school may choose to grant a maximum of two course credits per challenge.
- Can a student challenge for as many credits as they want?

Yes. A student may challenge for as many credit courses as they wish. However, only two successful challenged credits will count towards graduation requirements.