

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ATHENS  
YOUTH OPTIONS PROGRAM**

#343.42

Adopted: 3/10/99      Revised: 5/12/04

The School District of Athens shall administer the Youth Options Program in accordance with state law and regulations. The District shall be responsible for administering the Youth Options Program.

*Courses Taken Through Technical Colleges*

Upon the student's request and with the written approval of the student's parent/guardian, any student who satisfies the following criteria may apply to attend a technical college under the Youth Options Program for the purpose of taking one or more courses:

1. The student has completed the 10th grade;
2. The student is in good academic standing;
3. The student notifies the Board of his/her intent to attend a technical college in accordance with the timelines established in state law; and
4. The student is not a child at risk as defined in state law.

The Board shall determine whether the technical college course(s) is comparable to a course offered in the district, whether it satisfies any graduation requirements and what, if any, high school credits are to be awarded to the student. If a student is not satisfied with the Board's decisions, he/she may appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Courses taken at a technical college as part of the Youth Options Program shall be paid for as follows:

1. If the course is taken for high school credit and the course is not comparable to a course offered in the district, the Board shall pay as required by law.
2. The number of credits for which the School Board will pay under the Youth Options program is limited to a cumulative total of 18 post-secondary credits in the student's Junior and Senior years.
3. If the course is taken for postsecondary credit only, the student shall pay as required by law.
4. If the student is a child with disabilities, the Board shall also pay the costs of any special services required for the student as determined jointly by the district and technical college. The district may refuse to permit a child with a disability to attend if it determines that the cost to the district would impose an undue financial burden on the district.
5. If a pupil receives a failing grade or fails to complete (drops) a course for which the School District has made payment the School Board will seek reimbursement. This provision in no way allows the school district to require the student/parent to pay for the course and then seeks reimbursement from the school district if the student passes the course.
6. Pupils who fail to provide reimbursement for a dropped or failed course as described above are not eligible for the Youth Options program. Moreover, the Board expects the administration to actively seek reimbursement.

