

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

LCB File No. R051-98

Effective September 9, 1998

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 2-7, NRS 389.155.

Section 1. Chapter 389 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *As used in sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this regulation, unless the context otherwise requires, “independent study” means the method by which a pupil may complete a required or elective course outside of the normal classroom setting that is consistent with the course of study prescribed by the state board. The term does not include independent study that is part of an alternative program pursuant to NAC 388.520.*

Sec. 3. *The board of trustees of a school district which provides for independent study shall:*

1. Develop a written policy for independent study, which must include, without limitation, the process by which a pupil may appeal a decision by the board of trustees which denies the pupil from enrolling in a course of independent study.

2. Establish a system of recordkeeping for each pupil enrolled in a course of independent study. For each course that a pupil participates in, the record must include, without limitation:

(a) A copy of the written agreement required pursuant to section 6 of this regulation;

- (b) A record of all communication between the pupil and the teacher;*
- (c) A record of the assignments that the pupil has completed; and*
- (d) A copy of the record which indicates the final grade and the number of units of credit earned by the pupil.*

Sec. 4. *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a pupil who is enrolled in high school may complete any required or elective course by independent study if the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled provides for independent study in accordance with sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this regulation.*

2. A pupil may apply not more than six of the units of credit earned by independent study toward graduation from high school. Not more than three units of credit earned by independent study in English, mathematics, science or social studies may be applied toward graduation.

3. A course of independent study may be taken at a location outside of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled upon the written approval of the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled.

Sec. 5. *1. The instructor of record for a course of independent study must be a person who is licensed to teach in this state.*

2. If the board of trustees of a school district that provides for independent study determines that an activity which is part of the course of independent study constitutes a risk to the health or safety of a pupil who is enrolled in the course, the course must be supervised by a person who has been approved by the board of trustees.

Sec. 6. *1. A pupil shall enter into a written agreement with the teacher of the course of independent study before the pupil may begin the course.*

2. *Such an agreement must include, without limitation:*

(a) *The objectives of the course.*

(b) *A timeline for the completion of the assigned course work.*

(c) *A schedule of the communications between the pupil and the teacher that satisfies the requirements of paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 389.155.*

(d) *The method by which the teacher will assess the learning of the pupil.*

(e) *The criteria by which each grade and unit of credit will be awarded to the pupil. The criteria must require that a final examination be administered at the completion of the course of independent study and comprise 50 percent of the grade awarded to the pupil.*

(f) *The written approval of a parent or guardian of the pupil to participate in the course of independent study.*

Sec. 7. NAC 389.666 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.666 Units of credit which a pupil may apply toward graduation from high school may be earned:

1. In a public or private high school located in this state.

2. In a public or private high school located outside this state if the school district approves a transfer of the units for this purpose.

3. In an institution of higher learning whose academic programs are accredited by a national accrediting organization.

4. In the Nevada youth training center or the Nevada girls training center.

5. *In a course of independent study conducted in accordance with sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this regulation.*