

## Independent Study

Independent study may be used as an alternative to a regular classroom program of instruction, thereby providing an opportunity to meet educational objectives on or off campus. An independent study assignment may or may not include some classes in the regular school program.

The curriculum of independent study programs is part of the district's instructional program and must be approved by the instructional division.

The following independent study regulations are mandatory:

1. The maximum length of time, for all grade levels and types of programs, which may elapse between the time an independent study assignment is made and the date by which the pupil must complete the assigned work, may not exceed one month.
2. The number of missed assignments (not appointments) which are allowed, before an evaluation is conducted to determine if the pupil should be allowed to continue the independent study program, will be three over a period of no less than 15 school days. A written record of the findings of any evaluation conducted pursuant to this regulation will be maintained in the pupil's permanent record.
3. A current written agreement for each independent study pupil will be maintained on file including, but not limited to, all of the following:
  - The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting a pupil's assignments and for reporting his or her progress.
  - The method utilized to evaluate the pupil's work.
  - The specific resources, including materials and personnel, which will be made available to the pupil.
  - A statement of the regulations prescribed in Sections 1. and 2. above.
  - No independent study agreement will be valid for any period longer than one semester.
  - A statement of the number of course credits, or for the elementary grades, other measures of academic accomplishment appropriate to the agreement, to be earned by the pupil upon completion.

- The inclusion of a statement in each independent study agreement that independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no pupil may be required to participate.
- Each written agreement will be signed by the pupil, the pupil's parent or legal guardian if the pupil is less than 18 years of age, the certified employee who has been designated as having responsibility for the general supervision of independent study, and all persons who have direct responsibility for providing assistance to the pupil.

The superintendent will establish additional regulations governing independent study as provided in the "Educational Code".

Adopted: December 2002

Dolores School District RE-4A