

Senior Year Plus Eligibility Requirements for Private Instruction Students

Private Instruction (Iowa Code 299A)

Competent Private Instruction (CPI) includes students receiving instruction which meets the requirements stipulated in Iowa Code 299A.1(2)(a) and 299A.3.

CPI has two options. Option 1 consists of instruction being provided by an appropriately licensed teacher that is privately retained by the family or provided by an appropriately licensed parent, guardian or custodian. With Option 2, instruction may be provided by a person who does not have a current Iowa teaching license and these students are required to provide proof of adequate annual progress.

Independent Private Instruction (IPI) includes students receiving instruction which meets the requirements defined in Iowa Code 229A.1(2)(b). Instruction is not accredited and is exempt from all applicable state laws and rules except those found in Iowa Code chapters 299 and 299A.

Dual Enrollment (Iowa Code 299A.8)

Dual enrollment is enrollment of a child who is receiving competent private instruction with a public school district for the purpose of attending one or more courses, participating in extracurricular activities offered by the district, or obtaining special education programs or services.

Students who are dual enrolled must be offered an equal opportunity to participate in the district's Senior Year Plus programs. A district may not set different standards for dual enrolled students to access Senior Year Plus programs, and any standards set must comply with the Senior Year Plus statute.

Private Instruction and Senior Year Plus (Iowa Code § 299A)

Students under Competent Private Instruction may enroll in Senior Year Plus (SYP) through the public school district in which they are dual enrolled provided the student has the approval of the school board of the school district to register for the postsecondary course and all eligibility requirements are satisfied.

Students of a non-accredited nonpublic school may also enroll in SYP programming. Students from such schools are considered to be under CPI and can enroll in SYP programming through the public school district in which the student resides provided all eligibility requirements are satisfied.

Students under IPI may access concurrent enrollment offerings through the public school district in which the student resides provided all eligibility requirements are satisfied. Independent Private Instruction students may not enroll in other programs offered through SYP, including postsecondary enrollment options, Advanced Placement®, and/or high school credit career academy courses.

Eligibility Requirements (281 IAC 22.2)

Students under any form of private instruction must meet all SYP eligibility requirements stipulated by 281 IAC 22.2, which includes demonstrating proficiency in reading, mathematics, and science as evidenced by the student's performance on the statewide assessment.

In lieu of statewide assessment achievement scores, a school district must allow a student under private instruction to demonstrate proficiency in reading, mathematics, and science by any one of the following means:

1. Testing at or above the proficiency cut score on the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress.
2. Submitting a written recommendation of the licensed teacher who supervises the student's instruction.
3. By testing at or above the proficiency cut score on another annual achievement evaluation approved for CPI students; as identified within the Private Instruction Handbook.
4. A composite score of at least 21 on the ACT.
5. A total combined score (sum of the selection index) of at least 141 in critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills on the PSAT.
6. A total combined score of at least 990 in critical reading and mathematics on the SAT.
7. Meeting any other proficiency standard approved by the local school board for all regularly enrolled students.

Course Load (281 IAC 31.6(2))

Iowa Administrative Code 281—22.7(4) states that students who are homeschooled under CPI Option #1, CPI Option #2, and IPI may access concurrent enrollment courses without the course limit contained in 281—31.5(4).

They may enroll in the same concurrent course load as students who are regularly enrolled. This only applies to enrollment in concurrent classes offered through the local school district as identified by the district's contract with the community college.

Note: A class period at a high school may not consist of the same number of instructional minutes as the college course, which may alter the number of courses the student may enroll in via Senior Year Plus during the school day. For example, a high school has seven periods in their school day, which means a CPI student may take approximately six periods of instruction through the district and maintain their CPI status. The student may consider a schedule that includes both local courses and concurrent courses, and would need to consider that a concurrent course is the equivalent of 1.5 to 1. The student could potentially take the equivalent of 6 periods of a seven-period day, blending concurrent and regular enrollment courses, and add up to the equivalent of a full load at the community college using online and evening delivery options for the concurrent courses.