

POLICY 3.41 BOARD/AUTHORITY AUTHORIZED COURSES

The Board of Education believes that Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses provide an opportunity for students to explore content beyond the boundaries of the provincial curriculum. These courses are developed in response to local needs and student interests.

Board Authority/Authorized Courses (BAA) must meet the requirements set by the Ministry, be approved by the Board and have content not offered in Ministry developed courses.

Guidelines

1. While Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses may overlap with Big Ideas and Curricular Competencies of Ministry courses they may not:
 - 1.1. significantly overlap with the provincial curriculum;
 - 1.2. be remedial or preparatory in nature;
 - 1.3. be a modified course;
 - 1.4. be an adapted course.
2. Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses can include courses that:
 - 2.1. Meet Fine Arts and/or Applied Skills 10, 11, or 12 requirements.
 - 2.2. Prepare students with special needs through skill instruction to be successful across a wide variety of subjects and settings.
 - 2.3. Address the cultural and academic literacy needs of English Language Learners.
 - 2.4. Support students in developing an understanding and appreciation of Indigenous culture and/or Indigenous language.
3. Course program submissions will describe:
 - 3.1. The processes utilized in creating the submission, including student and teacher involvement.
 - 3.2. The educational rationale for such a course, including the need for a Board/Authority authorized designation.
 - 3.3. The course content; the procedures for selection of learning resources, the anticipated methodology to be utilized; the student evaluation criteria; and the link, if any, to other school or District programs.

- 3.4. The anticipated budget, equipment and facility requirements, including a listing of proposed course fees and the anticipated amount and type of travel, and
 - 3.5. The impact of the course or program on existing courses or programs; on the school's operating, learning resources and equipment budgets, and on the school's facilities.
4. Indigenous-focused graduation credit BAA courses must include content that provides the opportunity for students to develop a meaningful and substantial breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of specific First Nation peoples, cultures, worldviews, and histories in BC and:
 - 4.1. Be co-developed and approved by one or more local First Nation[s];
 - 4.2. Ensure that learning about and from First Nation peoples and cultures in BC is a significant outcome (courses may still focus on specific curricular areas); and
 - 4.3. Meet all existing BAA course requirements.
5. The Superintendent of Schools will submit proposals to the Board for consideration together with their recommendation, the request for establishing the proposed Board/Authority authorized course, the course of study, and other supportive material.
6. The Board will approve or rejects the course by Board motion.
7. If the course receives the approval of the Board, the Superintendent of Schools will forward notification to the Ministry of Education. A copy of the course description will be kept on file by the Superintendent of Schools to be available for Ministry review purposes.
8. The Superintendent will monitor Board Authority/Authorized courses, on an ongoing, basis in accordance with established administrative procedures.