

POLICY: <u>PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION FOR MATURE STUDENTS</u>		#	<u>507</u>
SECTION: <u>500</u> : <u>Curriculum</u>		Page	<u>1</u> of <u>1</u>
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CROSS REFERENCE:			

A: **POLICY**

1. 1.1 The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board recognizes that mature students acquire important knowledge, skills and competencies in a variety of settings outside, as well as inside, the formal education setting. Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) allows mature students to have their skills and knowledge evaluated against the expectations outlined in Ontario curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
- 1.2 This policy is written in accordance with Policy/Program Memorandums 132, Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students and the Ministry of Education document, Ontario Secondary Schools, Grades 9 to 12: Program and Diploma Requirements.
- 1.3 It is the policy of the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board to evaluate a student's skills and knowledge against the expectations outlined in current Ontario curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) through a Challenge and Equivalency Process.

B: **GUIDELINES**

2. 2.1 All credits granted through the Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition process will represent the same standards of achievement as credits granted to students who have taken the courses.
- 2.2 No fees will be charged to students for undergoing the challenge or equivalency process.
- 2.3 Through the Grade 9 and 10 Equivalency Process, credits may be granted following individual assessment.
- 2.4 Through the Grade 11 and 12 Equivalency Process, mature students may be granted equivalent credits if their transcripts or other documents show evidence of learning that relates directly to the Ontario curriculum expectations for specific courses.
- 2.5 The Equivalency Process is used for placement only.
- 2.6 Students may challenge for credit only for Grade 11 and 12 courses in Ontario Curriculum Policy documents.
- 2.7 Opportunities for students to challenge for credit will be provided only for courses that are taught in schools operated by the Board.
- 2.8 Students may challenge for credit for a course only if they can provide reasonable evidence to the Principal or designate that they would likely be successful in the Challenge Process.
- 2.9 The Challenge Process is an evaluation process that may not be used in a way for students to improve their mark in a course for which they have already earned a credit, or as a way to obtain a credit for a course they have previously failed.
- 2.10 The Director of Education is authorized to issue such procedures as may be necessary to support the policy.