



Credit by Demonstrated Mastery Phase Guidelines

Core Academic and Performance Based courses are both eligible for Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM). Standards regarding assessment of each phase for each type of content are outlined below. If students are unable to meet the established minimum in Phase I, then they are not allowed to progress to Phase II. Districts will form a local committee to review submissions of work for Phase II.

While the CDM process is open to all students, it is not designed for whole groups of students. Likewise, it is not intended to replace the general accelerated pathways local school districts often provide for advanced students.

Core Academic Content:

Phase I:

Students will take a written assessment (computer or paper based) which will include a variety of item types (i.e., multiple choice, short answer, constructed response). No more than 50% of the total points may come from multiple choice items. Students may take the corresponding AP or IB exam at their own cost to meet this requirement. The assessments must be comprehensive and include content from each strand/domain in the academic content standards for the course. The student must demonstrate understanding of content from each of the strands/domains and meet a minimum score of 80% on the locally scored exam, 3 on the AP exam, or a 4 on the IB exam in order to move to Phase II.

If students are unable to meet the established minimum score in Phase I, then they are not allowed to progress to Phase II.

Phase II:

Students will develop and present at least one additional piece of evidence of their mastery of the content. The purpose of Phase II is to allow flexibility in determining how students can demonstrate competency in a subject area.

The piece(s) of evidence will be developed under the guidance of the content area instructor. Evidence of learning will include content from multiple strands/domains of the state approved standards and should contain components of writing and speaking. Student work will be scored based upon a locally developed rubric. The Phase II score, paired with the Phase I score, will determine if the student is awarded credit for demonstrating competency as well as the grade assigned to that credit.

Examples of evidence might include:

- Selecting a time period from American Literature and compiling and analyzing an anthology of work

- Using concepts from Algebra to examine and explain various business models
- Creating and completing a body of real-world performance tasks related to the study of Biology

Performance-Based Content:

Phase I:

Students must demonstrate, either through a written assessment or “on the spot performance”, mastery over the skills/content outlined in each strand/domain of the content standards for the course and meet a minimum score of 80% in order to move to Phase II.

If students are unable to meet the established minimum score in Phase I, then they are not allowed to progress to Phase II.

Phase II:

Students will develop and present at least one additional piece of evidence of their mastery of the skills outlined in the course content. The purpose of Phase II is to allow districts and students flexibility in determining how students can demonstrate competency in a performance area.

This piece of evidence will be developed under the guidance of the instructor. It will include skills from multiple strands/domains. The evidence of learning should contain components of writing, speaking, and creating/performing. Student work will be scored based upon a locally developed rubric. The Phase II score, paired with the Phase I score, will determine if the student is awarded credit for demonstrating subject matter competency as well as the grade assigned to that credit.

Examples of evidence might include:

- Creating, choreographing, and performing a body of work from multiple genres of dance
- Creating multiple pieces of art and giving a guided tour of the art and its' significance
- Performing different musical pieces using an instrument or voice and providing history about the pieces that were performed