

MDHSA Application for Credits earned prior to Ninth Grade.

Advanced students who are doing high school level work (9th to 12th grades), but who are in a lower grade level may apply for a course (s) to be credited for 9th to 12th grades. ONLY THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAVE FILED PREVIOUSLY WITH MDHSA FOR THE DIPLOMA PROGRAM AND SENT IN THEIR REGISTRATION FEE WILL BE ABLE TO APPLY. You will receive a copy of this form with decision noted below within 30 days of its receipt at the MDHSA office.

The differences between secondary and elementary level work consist in the developmental level of the student and the quality as well as quantity of work completed. Just because a student participates in a secondary level course and "completes" the assignments does not necessarily qualify the student to receive high school credit towards graduation. The work must demonstrate that the student has made the leap from the concrete, linear thinking typical of elementary students to abstract, complex thinking that is more that of adults or adults-in-training. It is very unusual for the MDHSA diploma program to award high school credit for composition work completed prior to ninth grade (although that is not true for subjects such as algebra and foreign languages). There must be clear and unequivocal evidence that the student analyzes, evaluates, and communicates at a secondary level and that must be corroborated by a third party, such as an evaluator or other instructor.

In addition, students and parents should read the advisement section of the diploma guide or on the website to determine if this is a viable option for this student. Some scholarship programs, NCAA, military, etc., prohibit students from taking high school courses in 8th grade, or from graduating in less than 4 calendar or 4 school years. The student and parent are responsible for researching and contacting various programs/institutions to determine that an accelerated high school program will not prevent you from pursuing your post-high school plans. MDHSA bears no responsibility in those instances.

In order to receive credit for high school, you must demonstrate mastery of the subject at a high school level. Samples of your work must be included in your portfolio and the evaluator should evaluate this subject the same as for any other course. You will also need to list this course on an MDHSA annual summary form signed by an evaluator.

Student	Supervisor	Date
Address		
Email	Course/subject	
\$10.00 Fee enclosed (One Time Only)	Ck #	Date

The processing of these "prior credits" requires work above and beyond what is required by a *traditional* graduate application. (Please note on any additional or future Prior Credit applications that this fee has already been paid, and the date).

- List all resources, which may or may not include textbooks, videos, library books, apprenticeships, and /or instructors, etc., where the course was taken, or what you have used to complete this course. If there are grade levels and publishers or authors, please list those as well. List any learning activities you may have previously done that helped you prepare for this course. Document the content of the material, how you learned this material, either through self-study, or teacher instruction, or a combination. Basically, anything that will help determine that you have **successfully** completed a high school level credit is pertinent. This should be done on a separate sheet of paper, or the back of this form.
- Please list or describe evidence of mastery of the subject at a high school level. You may attach instructor evaluations, test scores, results from college equivalency exams such as CLEP, or AP and/or descriptions of how you know you have done high school level work or higher. If you use this material in the workplace or other hands on endeavor, that may also be part of evidence of mastery. Please put this information on a separate sheet of paper or the back of this form.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge this work was completed as described in answer to the questions above, and that such work demonstrates a secondary level (9th -12th grades) accomplishment. I also attest that I have read the ADVISEMENT Section on page 15 of the diploma guide.

_____ Evaluator or other Instructor Signature	_____ Supervisor Signature	_____ Student Signature
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THIS SPACE FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Approved: date/ initials Denied: date/ initials

Explanations/notes: