

Parental Rights Policy

A. Legal Authority/Requirement

- UCA 53A-15 Parental Rights
- UCA 53A-11-102.7 Placement of Home School Students

B. Philosophy

1. A parent has primary responsibility for the education of his/her child. The state (and its system of public schools) is in a secondary and supportive role to parents. As such, an ICHS student's parent or guardian has the right to reasonable academic accommodations from ICHS.

C. Definitions

1. Reasonable Accommodation: Efforts made by ICHS to enable a parent to exercise parental rights specified in this policy, that:
 - a. Do not create substantial impact on staff and resources, including
 - i. Employee working conditions,
 - ii. Safety and supervision on school premises and for school activities,
 - iii. The efficient allocation of expenditures.
 - b. Balance parental rights with
 - i. The educational needs of other students,
 - ii. The academic and behavioral impacts to the classroom,
 - iii. A teacher's workload, and
 - iv. The assurance of the safe and efficient operation of the school.

D. Reasonable Accommodation

1. ICHS will make good faith efforts to allow parents to exercise the parental rights enumerated in UCA 53A-15.
2. ICHS may deny a request for accommodation that substantially impacts;
 - a. Staff and resources.
 - b. Safety and supervision on school premises or at school activities.
 - c. Efficient allocation of expenditures.
 - d. The educational needs and rights of other students.
 - e. The behavior or academic environment of the classroom.
 - f. A teacher's workload.
 - g. The safety and efficient operation of the school.
3. Accommodations may only be provided if they are consistent with federal law, federal regulation, and consistent with an IEP if the student already has an IEP.

E. Parent Rights to Notification

1. ICHS shall annually notify a parent of a student enrolled in the school of the parent's rights specified in this policy and UCA 53A-15.
 - a. Notification may be made by posting the information online or through other means of electronic communication.
2. ICHS shall annually distribute a copy of the *Student Discipline Policy* to each student.
3. ICHS shall annually request a parent's signature acknowledging receipt of the *Student Discipline Policy*.
4. ICHS shall notify a parent of a student's violation of the *Student Discipline Policy* and allow a parent to respond to the notice according to the provisions of the *Student Discipline Policy*.

F. Parent Rights to Academic Accommodation

1. Each accommodation shall be considered on an individual basis and no student shall be considered to a greater or lesser degree than any other student.
2. The parental rights specified in this policy and UCA 53A-15 do not include all the rights or accommodations that may be available to a student's parent or guardian as a user of the public education system.

G. Accommodations that Shall be made by ICHS personnel:

1. Upon a parent's submission of a *Parental Exclusion from State Assessment Form* ICHS personnel ***shall excuse*** the student from taking the requested testing exclusions.
 - a. Parental Exclusions Forms
 - i. Are valid only for the school year in which they are completed.
 - ii. Must be received by ICHS at least one day prior to a test requested for exclusion to be valid for that test.
 - iii. May be used to exclude a student from the basic civics test, but not from the civics test graduation requirement.
 - b. ICHS personnel
 - i. May not require additional procedures to parentally exclude a student from testing.
 - ii. May not reward a student for taking a parentally excludable assessment.
 - iii. May require the student who has been parentally excluded from an assessment to complete an alternate assignment of comparable academic value.
 - iv. May use a student's ***participation*** on a state required assessment or alternate assignment of comparable academic value to determine a portion of a student's grade.
 - v. v. May not use a student's ***score*** on a state required assessment to determine a student's grade (or portion of a student's grade) or whether a student may advance to the next grade level. May request, but not require, a parent to meet regarding the parent's request to exclude the parent's student from taking a state required assessment.
1. Subject to competency education law and review by appropriately licensed and endorsed ICHS personnel, ICHS shall allow a student to earn course credit towards high school graduation without completing a course in school by:

- a. Testing out of the course; or
 - b. Demonstrating competency in course standards.
2. Upon the written request of a parent of a student transferring from home school, ICHS personnel ***shall place*** the student in the grade level, classes, or courses that the student's parent determines designates are appropriate.
- a. Initial placement is based on the parent's assessment of the student's academic performance so long as the parent has consulted about the appropriateness of the placement with the school administrator.
 - b. Within 30 days of a home school student's placement in an ICHS public school grade level, class, or course, either a student's teacher or the student's parent may request a conference to consider changing the student's placement.
 - i. If the student's teacher and the student's parent agree on a placement change, ICHS shall place the student in the agreed upon grade level, class, or course.
 - ii. If the student's teacher and the student's parent do not agree on placement, the ICHS shall evaluate the student's subject matter mastery. The student's parent or guardian has the option of:
 - 1) allowing ICHS to administer, to the student, assessments that are regularly administered to ICHS students to measure subject matter mastery and determine placement.

- 2) having a private entity or individual administer assessments of subject matter mastery to the student at the parent's expense.
- iii. After an evaluation of a student's subject matter mastery, a public school may change a student's placement in a grade level, class, or course.

H. Accommodations that Shall be made by ICHS Personnel upon the Written Request of a Student's Parent, if Deemed "Reasonable" by ICHS Personnel.

1. Retention a student on grade level based on the student's academic ability or the student's social, emotional, or physical maturity.
2. Excusal of a student from attendance for a family event or a scheduled proactive visit to a health care provider, if.
 - a. The parent or guardian submits a written statement at least one school day before the scheduled absence.
 - b. Such an excused absence is also subject to the other provisions of the ICHS *Truancy Intervention and Attendance Policy*.
3. Placement of a student in a specialized class or an advanced course.
 - a. ICHS personnel shall consider multiple academic data points to determine the reasonableness of the requested specialized/advanced course placement.
4. Initial selection of a teacher.
5. Change of teacher.
6. Parent visit to and observation of any class the student attends.
7. Meeting with a teacher at a mutually agreeable alternate time if a parent is unable to attend a regularly scheduled Parent-Teacher-Student Conference.

Document History

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Policy origination