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Center for Independent Study (CIS)

What is Independent Study?

Independent Study is one of the educational options provided by the Oroville Union High School District. This educational offering accommodates students who prefer to study at home rather than in a standard school environment. Students meet on a one-to-one basis at a scheduled time with their teacher each week. Independent Study is a voluntary educational offering.

Who should enroll?

Independent Study is a program for serious students who are motivated, self-disciplined independent learners. Independent Study is a voluntary optional education alternative in which no student may be required to participate.

What is the referral process?

Students interested in participating in the OUHSD Independent Study Program must be referred by their counselor. The Director of Education and Student Services will then review the referral and determine if the student is a good candidate for the program. When there is room for the student, the Director will notify the counseling staff and the CIS teacher.

What is Independent Study like and how long is each meeting?

The student meets once a week with an instructor to answer any questions they may have about the assignment, to correct homework, to do testing, to practice CAHSEE standards and to receive a new assignment for the following week. Each student is assigned a specific day, time, and instructor. The meeting time is scheduled for one hour but the student is expected to stay until everything has been completed. Additional time may be prescribed by the student's teacher to work on math and/or English skills. Students may be dropped from the Independent Study Program and referred back to their high school of residence, if they fail to comply with program requirements.

How long will it take to earn a diploma?

The amount of time it will take to complete the requirements for a high school diploma depends on the individual and how many credits they have previously completed. The average student completes 1-2 credits a week, at least an equivalent amount of weekly assignments as the traditional and alternative schools.

Alternative Ways to Earn Credit

Students may only take courses which are not offered by the school district.

- Concurrent enrollment in adult education and/or occupational training classes
- Community college classes: Students who have taken or are taking community college classes can apply those credits towards their high school diplomas. However, they need to be aware that once a course has been used toward high school graduation, it cannot be used towards college graduation. Non-transferable courses are credited one credit to one credit, CSU or UC transferable credits: 3 units at a semester college transfers as 10 credits of high school credit, and 3 units at a quarter college transfers as 6 credits of high school credit.

Student Responsibilities:

- To complete assigned homework each week.
- To study for each test and to ask for help at home, or call their teacher concerning any work they are having problems with.
- To be punctual for each scheduled appointment on a weekly basis.
- To call in advance in the case of illness or emergency; to reschedule an appointment at the teachers convenience.
- To provide his/her own suitable environment for study purposes.
- To make sure he/she has a way to get to the weekly appointments, with the teacher, on time.
- Participate in testing and remedial activities as prescribed by their teacher.

Teacher Responsibilities:

- To assess each student's level of reading and math skills on an as-needed basis.
- To work with the student's counselor to assign courses in accordance with the district's graduation requirements.
- To assign appropriate work for each subject area.
- To be available by phone or in the classroom to assist students as his/her schedule permits.
- To counsel students toward their best educational opportunities.
- To keep accurate records of work completed by the student.
- To issue grades and credits for work completed by the student.

Parent Responsibilities:

- To monitor your child's daily and weekly progress to insure they are completing the required assignments.
- To help make sure your child makes their scheduled appointment time with their teacher on a weekly basis.

What if I don't come?

Students need to make every effort to attend their scheduled appointment time. If you must miss your appointment, **it is very important that you call your teacher to reschedule the appointment.** Even if all of your homework is not completed, please come in at your regular time. If an emergency occurs, please call and leave a message on your teacher's voice mail at (530) 538-2359. If a student misses three appointments without calling, he/she will be dropped from the schedule, referred back to their high school, and assigned classes in the regular instructional program.

What if I don't turn my work in?

If weekly student work is not turned the student will receive non-attendance or cuts at their school of enrollment. If a student misses three weeks of work, he/she will be dropped from the schedule, referred back to their high school, and assigned classes in the regular instructional program.

Classroom Rules

We expect everyone to respect the teachers and other students. No foul or disrespectful language or behavior will be tolerated.

Facility Rules

No Visitors or Guests: OUHSD policy states that NO student guests are allowed on campus. This includes students meeting with their Center for Independent Study teachers. Please wait in another location for the student to complete their meeting.

Loitering: Students will not be allowed to loiter near or around the CIS entrances.

Smoking: The Oroville Union High School District Center for Independent Study (CIS) is a tobacco-free school. Smoking and tobacco use is prohibited.

Leaving School: Students will not be allowed to loiter around or near businesses and schools in the area. Please refrain from using foul language and inappropriate behavior while leaving the premises.

Food and Drink: No eating in rooms is allowed and drinks must be in approved containers. Gum and seeds are prohibited. Students found spitting gum/seeds on floors or placing gum on furniture may be dropped from CIS.

Alcohol/Drugs: Possession or being under the influence of drugs and alcohol while in the school parking lot or in the school building will result in disciplinary action. Students may be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion from OUHSD as well as cited by local law enforcement.

Cars: The California Vehicle Code as well as all state and local laws will be enforced in the CIS parking lot. Stereo volume should be low enough as not to disturb classes inside.

Vandalism: Vandalism of any kind will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action.

OUHSD Discipline Policy: The OUHSD Discipline Policy is in effect for all students while attending educational activities at the Center for Independent Study (CIS).

Resources: All resources available at your home school are also available to you. You may see your counselor, use the library, enroll in classes not offered at CSI, (such as band and ROP), and participate in all school activities, unless excluded by conditions of a behavior contract, suspension from school or suspended expulsion.

Work Permits: A student must have a 2.0 grade point average on the most recent report card to obtain a work permit. The student must maintain a 2.0 GPA to retain work permit. Failure to attend scheduled Independent Study appointments, prescribed remediation, tutoring activities, and testing will result in revocation of your work permit.

