

Downey Unified School District

INSTRUCTION (Continuation Education)

CONTINUATION EDUCATION

AR 3210

Continuation education in the Downey Unified School District is designed for secondary school students under 18 years of age who, because of severe attendance problems, deviant behavior, school phobia, and/or poor scholastic records, do not perform satisfactorily in the regular school; who are not provided for in other special programs; and/or students who for economic reasons must be employed to help support themselves and their families.

Admission Requirements

Candidates for admission to the continuation education program at Columbus High School must reside in the Downey Unified School District and

1. Be in the ninth grade or above.
2. Be working and able to attend school on a part-time basis only, or
3. Be transferred from a regular school by action of the Student Placement Committee or by petition of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) in accordance with the following regulations.

Involuntary Transfer

Referral of students for involuntary placement in Columbus High School shall be in accordance with established regulations as outlined.

1. The Superintendent shall appoint a Student Placement Committee which shall meet as needed to consider involuntary referrals to Columbus High School. Its membership shall include the Director, Pupil Services, and two school administrators, neither of who shall be on the staff of the school in which the student is or ever has been enrolled. The Student Placement Committee shall consist of both male and female members at all meetings.
2. Written notice of the meeting to consider the involuntary transfer to Columbus High School and their right to attend shall be given to the student and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
3. At the meeting the student or the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be informed of the specific facts and reasons for the proposed transfer and shall have the opportunity to inspect all documents relied upon, question any

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evidence and witnesses presented, and present evidence on the student's behalf. The student may designate one or more representatives and witnesses to be present with him/her at the meeting.

4. A decision to transfer the student involuntarily shall be based on a finding that the student (a) committed an act enumerated in AR 2430, or (b) has been habitually truant or irregular in attendance from instruction upon which he/she is lawfully required to attend.
5. The decision to transfer shall be in writing, stating the facts and reasons for the decision, and sent to the student and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). It shall indicate whether the decision is subject to periodic review and the procedure therefore.

Voluntary Transfer Request

1. Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students who meet the criteria for admission to continuation education may voluntarily petition for admission of their child to Columbus High School.
2. This petition shall include the signature of both parent(s)/guardian(s), if residing in the home, and state the reasons for this request. It shall be presented in person by the parent(s)/guardian(s) to the principal of the school of attendance.
3. If approved by the principal, the petition shall then be presented in person by the parent(s)/guardian(s) to the principal of Columbus High School for approval or rejection.
4. A student who has voluntarily transferred to a continuation school shall have the right to return to the regular high school at the beginning of the following school year and, with the consent of a designee of the Superintendent, may return at any time.

Attendance Requirements

Students eligible for continuation education and employed full time must attend school at least four hours per week. Students who are not employed full time must attend school a total of 15 hours per week.

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Graduation and Credit Requirements

A diploma of graduation will be granted to students of Columbus High School who satisfactorily complete all required subjects, earn a total of 190 semester hours of credit in grades 9 through 12, and pass the Graduation Proficiency Examination.