

Downey Unified School District

INSTRUCTION

INDEPENDENT STUDY

BP 3153

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to provide an independent study program as an alternative to a regular classroom program of instruction. All courses of independent study shall be designed to fit the educational needs of the participating students.

INDEPENDENT STUDY FOR 2021-2022

The Board of the Downey Unified School District has previously authorized independent study as an optional alternative instructional strategy for eligible students whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. With the enactment of Assembly Bill No. 130 (Ch. 44, Stats. 2021, hereafter "AB130"), school districts and county offices of education are required to offer independent study for the 2021-2022 school year, with limited exceptions.

Education Code section 51747, as it read prior to July 8, 2021, provided that a local educational agency shall not be eligible to receive apportionments for independent study unless it has adopted and implemented written policies as specified in that statute. AB 130 continues the requirements for local educational agencies to adopt and implement written policies, and adds additional content required to be included in such policies. This policy is intended to supplement Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulation (AR) No. 6158 to include the additional requirements of AB 130. To the extent that there is any conflict between this policy and BP and AR 6158, the provisions of this policy shall govern.

The District shall comply with the requirements of AB 130 by either providing an independent study option to all students or contracting with the County Office of Education or another school district to provide independent study to students.

The Administration shall adopt Regulations implementing this policy in compliance with AB 130.