

OTTAWA HILLS JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS - Guidelines

An Educational Option, as defined in the *Operating Standards for Ohio Schools*, is a learning experience or activity that is designed to extend, enhance, supplement, or serve as an alternative to traditional classroom instruction. Educational Options may include, but not be limited to, distance learning or online coursework, independent studies, mentor programs, travel, and tutorials.

Educational Options will be considered on an individual student basis. Application to participate in an Educational Option shall be submitted in writing to the junior/senior high school principal by April 1st for the summer session or fall semester and by October 1st for the winter semester. Each request will be evaluated based on a student's individual needs and agreed upon by the school district, the student, and the parents.

It is expected that all Educational Options will be completed within the established time frame, which is generally one semester, a full school year, or over the summer. Educational Options during the summer must be completed and all official grades submitted to the Director of Curriculum and Instruction and the junior/senior high school guidance office one week before the first day of the new school year. Educational Options taken during the summer that serve as a prerequisite for another course must meet all timelines established or the student will not be scheduled into the next level course.

It is also important to note that it is challenging, even for the most proficient student, to replicate educational experiences and interactions that take place within a traditional classroom environment through an educational option. For many students, the classroom setting is an essential element of the learning process. Although the content may be covered, most nontraditional courses lack the rigor and depth of courses taught at Ottawa Hills junior/senior high school. As a result, weighted grades for honors level courses will not be given without prior approval and additional requirements to assure the equity of the educational option to comparable honors level courses at Ottawa Hills junior/senior high school.

If you have questions regarding Educational Options, please contact Dr. William Miller, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, at wmillers@ohschools.org or 419-536-2713, or the junior/senior high office.

OTTAWA HILLS JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
Educational Options (EO) – Application for Participation

An Educational Option is a learning experience or activity that is designed to extend, enhance, supplement, or serve as an alternative to traditional classroom instruction. Educational Options may include, but not be limited to, distance learning or online coursework, independent studies, mentor programs, travel, and tutorials.

Students are expected to work independently and possess the ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and resources. Students must be able to budget their time and meet critical deadlines. These qualities are essential for the successful completion of an Educational Option. See guidance document attached for more details.

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Content Area _____

Type of Educational Option _____

Name of the Educational Option _____

Name of Provider _____

Expected Credit _____ Expected Completion Date _____

Clearly and thoroughly explain your proposed Educational Option course of study in a typed document attached. Be sure to address the following questions.

1. What are the instructional and performance objectives of the Educational Option?
2. How do these objectives align with the District's curriculum requirements?
3. What measures or assessments will demonstrate your mastery or competence of this subject area or topic?
4. Please include an outline of specific instructional activities, materials, and the learning environment included in this Educational Option.
5. Outline your timeline of study for this proposal. Be sure to include beginning date, activity dates, measurement and assessment dates, and any other pertinent information.
6. Attach supplemental materials, descriptions, or other information as needed to fully describe the proposed Educational Option.

Costs associated with Educational Options will be the sole responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s).

It is expected as part of the application process that students and parents will meet with the high school guidance counselor to discuss the implications of the proposed Educational Option on the student's schedule and to procure guidance counselor's signature below.

Applications for Educational Options are due by April 1st for courses beginning in the summer or fall semester and by October 1st for courses beginning in the winter semester. No extensions will be granted.

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Guidance Counselor

Date of Meeting