

Learning Through Experience

IHBH

I. Purpose

VLACS encourages students to learn through experience through a pursuit of Extended Learning Opportunities. VLACS students may take advantage of Extended Learning Opportunities through participation in internships, travel, work study, independent learning, entrepreneurship, and other opportunities approved of by VLACS in accordance with this policy.

The purpose of Extended Learning Opportunities is to provide educational experiences that are meaningful and relevant, and that provide students with opportunities to explore and achieve at high levels. This policy permits students to participate in ELOs through VLACS' Learning Through Experience (LTE) program. Through the program, students will engage in stimulating and intellectually challenging opportunities to fulfill or succeed expectations set forth by State minimum standards and applicable VLACS policies.

LTEs may be designed help a student master one or more VLACS competencies through participation in opportunities that occur after the LTE plan is in place. LTE proposals that include events or experiences that have occurred in the past will not be accepted.

II. Roles and Responsibilities

All programs of study must meet or exceed the proficiencies and skills identified by the New Hampshire State Board of Education, applicable rules and regulations of the Department of Education, and all applicable VLACS policies. All programs of study proposed through the LTE program shall have specific instructional competencies aligned with the State minimum standards. All LTEs will comply with applicable laws and regulations, including child labor laws, regulations governing occupational safety, and criminal history and records checks.

VLACS will determine the number of credits to be awarded to a student for participation in the LTE program that will count towards graduation requirements. Any credits may be counted towards the student's overall Grade Point Average.

Students approved for an LTE must have parental/guardian permission to participate in the program. Such permission will be granted in writing and signed by the parent/guardian. VLACS must receive written permission signed by the parent/legal guardian before the student begins the LTE.

LTEs shall be the financial responsibility of the student or his/her parent/legal guardian. Students electing independent study, internships, or other extended learning

opportunities that are held off VLACS property and/or not conducted on-line will be responsible for providing their own transportation to and from the off-site location.

Students are responsible for their own safety and well-being while at the LTE site and shall bear all risk of loss or damage to personal property and risk of personal injury for participation. It is the student's responsibility to maintain academic standing and enrollment in an approved LTE. Any failure to complete an approved program may jeopardize the student's ability to earn credit for the LTE program. The student and parent recognize that in the event that a student withdraws from an approved program, VLACS cannot guarantee placement in an equivalent program.

Legal References

- NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(13), Extended Learning Opportunities
- NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(b)(4), Extended Learning Opportunities
- RSA 189:13-a, School Employee and Volunteer Criminal History Records Check

Date Adopted: March 17, 2016

Revision Dates: