

## **SD 42 PROCEDURE: 8330.1**

### **BOARD / AUTHORITY AUTHORIZED COURSES**

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#### **BACKGROUND**

The Board of Education believes that Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses provide an opportunity for students and educators to explore content beyond the boundaries of Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC) curriculum. Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses at grade 10, 11, or 12 are focused on content not offered in (MECC) developed courses and are developed in response to local needs and student interests.

The Board shall review existing Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses on a five year cycle to ensure that the courses and content remain current.

#### **GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Board Authority/Authorized Courses (BAA) must meet the requirements set by the Ministry, be approved by the Board of Education and have content not offered in Ministry developed courses.

While Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses may overlap with Big Ideas and Curricular Competencies of Ministry courses they may not:

- significantly overlap with provincial curriculum;
- be remedial or preparatory in nature;
- be a modified course;
- be an adapted course.

There is no limit to the number of Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses that may be used for the 28 credits of electives needed to fulfill graduation requirements. Grade 12 level Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses may count towards twelve of the sixteen Grade 12 credits required for graduation.

Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses do not meet Adult Graduation Program graduation credit requirements.

Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses can include courses that:

- Meet Fine Arts and/or Applied Skills 10, 11, or 12 requirements.
- Prepare students with special needs through skill instruction to be successful across a wide variety of subjects and settings.
- Address the cultural and academic literacy needs of English Language Learners.

#### **BAA Indigenous-focused Graduation Requirement**

A Board Authorized Course satisfies the Indigenous-focused graduation requirement set out in section 4 (1) (a) of Ministerial Order 302/04, the Graduation Program Order if it,

- a. if it has been co-developed with, and approved in writing by a First Nation on whose territory the school or schools that will provide the Board Authorized Course is located
- b. includes content that provides the opportunity for students to develop a meaningful and substantial breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of the specific cultures, worldviews and histories of one or more entities described in paragraph
- c. ensures that learning about and from one or more entities described in paragraph (a) is a significant outcome of the course regardless of the curricular area on which the course focuses; and
- d. meets all other requirements in this Order for a Board Authorized

### **BAA Creation and Approval PROCESS:**

1. The teacher(s) completes the BAA Course Framework and submits it to the Principal for review and approval.
2. Principal reviews the BAA Course Framework and ensures that the proposed course meets the needs of the students, has staff support and that the forms include all the information required for Board review and approval.
3. Assistant Superintendent reviews proposed BAA Course Framework, consults with others as needed and refers the BAA Course Framework to the Board's Education Committee for review.
4. The Board's Education Committee reviews and recommends approval of the BAA Course Framework to the Board.
5. The Board of Education reviews and approves the BAA Course Framework.
6. The Superintendent or designate completes BAA Course Form and submits it to the MECC for approval. The Superintendent or designate retains a copy of the BAA Course Framework on file.
7. The MECC approved BAA course is added to the Student Information System by the Superintendent or designate and secondary schools are notified of the course code and course title to be used.
8. The Superintendent or designate ensures that all BAA courses are reviewed on a five year cycle to ensure continued adherence to the provincial curriculum.

### **Resources:**

*Curriculum:* [www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca](http://www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca)

*Board/Authority Authorized Courses policy:* [Board/Authority Authorized Courses and First Nation Authorized Courses Policy - Province of British Columbia](#)

*The School Act:* [Table of Contents - School Act](#)

*Board Authorized Course Ministerial Order:* [Authority: School Act, sections 168 \(2\) \(b\) and \(t\)](#)

*Handbook of Procedures for the Graduation Program:* [2023 BC Grad Handbook of Procedures](#)

**UPDATED: October 2024**