
Special Course Approval Recommendations

The Background:

The State Board of Education Academic Program Requirements Rule 0520-01-03-.03(4) and Special Courses Policy 3.201 allow school districts to apply to offer special courses not listed in the Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205. The Department of Education annually reviews special course and special programs of study applications and assigns subject-specific course codes to special courses approved for one, three, or six years.

This item presents the list of all special course applications received by the Department for the 2025-26 school year, along with their approval status and, if applicable, the number of years for which the special course was approved.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Postsecondary and Career outlined in the Master Plan by providing LEAs and public charters the opportunity to provide their students with innovative course options.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on first and final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.