

# TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## SPECIAL COURSES

3.201

Local school systems may seek approval for special courses not listed in the Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205.

### Policy Implications

- a. Local school systems shall seek approval from the Department of Education for new special courses in advance of each school year in which the special course will be offered.
- b. A special course approved by the Department of Education shall be recommended to the State Board for either:
  - i. One (1) year approval
  - ii. Three (3) year continuous approval
  - iii. Six (6) year continuous approval
- c. After the duration of the State Board of Education's approval, the local school system must resubmit a special course application to the Department of Education to continue offering the course.
- d. Credit earned in a special course may only apply to the elective credit requirement.
- e. A list of approved special courses will be maintained and made available to other school systems as they consider ways to improve their respective high school programs.
- f. Special courses approved by the State Board but not offered by a local school system may be identified and considered for removal each year.

This policy will be phased in over the 2017-18 school year and be fully implemented in the 2018-19 school year. All special course applications (new and renewal) approved for the 2017-18 school year will be approved for one (1), three (3) or six (6) years, under the revised policy. Special courses which were permanently approved prior to the 2016-17 school year are valid through the 2017-18 school year, but then must be resubmitted as new special course applications and assigned new special course codes for the 2018-19 school year. All existing special course codes will be retired following the 2017-18 school year.

[Following the full implementation of this policy in the 2018-19 school year, the preceding paragraph governing implementation timeline shall be removed from the approved policy.]