

Book	Policy Manual
Section	Issue 2 of 2021 May PDQ (Revised)
Title	Innovative Education Programs
Code	IGCB
Status	From OSBA

### Innovative Education Programs

The Board believes that there are times when the use of innovative educational approaches may be more compatible with the goals of the District's educational programs or objectives. An innovative approach is a new, experimental or disruptive educational approach developed based on an identified need that seeks continuous improvement in student achievement or student growth. The approach should be workable and be tested and evaluated over time to gauge effectiveness. To this end the Board may apply to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) for the use of innovative programs in the District. The District may only request an exemption for an allowable provision of Ohio Revised Code or Ohio Administrative Code. The application must be submitted in accordance with required timelines and include the following:

1. a detailed description of the proposed innovative pilot program, including how the program meets the ODE's definition of innovation;
2. measurable outcomes, performance indicators and method of evaluation;
3. anticipated costs or savings associated with the program, if any;
4. specific timelines for planning, implementation, and evaluation;
5. identification of the specific statutory provision and/or rules for which an exemption request is made;
6. rationale for each exemption request;
7. specific period of time for which each exemption is requested;
8. the potential impact of the proposed innovative pilot program on data reporting, student assessments, student learning, graduation requirements, compliance with Federal law, and/or any other areas that may be impacted;
9. a description of what will happen if the proposed pilot program fails;
10. a disclosure of whether the applicant is currently subject to any corrective action plan by ODE or the State Board of Education and
11. written consent of the teachers' union.

The District continues to comply with all statutory requirements from which an exemption is requested until such a time as the exemption is granted. If the District receives an exemption the Superintendent/designee must create an annual report and any other reports required by ODE.

An approved program may be terminated by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction or the District.

### **Experimental Programs**

~~There are times when nontraditional approaches to instructional objectives are appropriate. To this end the Board has initiated experimental programs that must meet the following requirements:~~

- ~~1. The program or course is developed by a committee consisting of administrators, grade level and subject area specialists and consultants as needed.~~
- ~~2. The Board makes formal application to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) for permission to implement the program on an experimental basis.~~
- ~~3. The program or course must be approved by the Board and ODE prior to implementation.~~
- ~~4. All instructional materials used in connection with this program are available for inspection by parents of participating students.~~
- ~~5. Students must be recommended for participation. The parent(s) must provide approval for students under 18 years of age to participate. A copy of the written approval must be retained in the school files. Students who are 18 years of age or older must submit a written request to participate. This request is kept on file.~~
- ~~6. The program is evaluated based on learning outcomes, student achievement and accomplishment of stated objectives.~~
- ~~7. At the end of an established period of time, the Superintendent recommends either inclusion or exclusion of the experimental program in the District's educational offerings.~~
- ~~8. Fees are estimated for experimental programs as needed. Participating students are expected to pay allowable fees at the beginning of the program.~~

LEGAL REFS.:

ORC 3302.07  
OAC 3301-35-04  
OAC 3301-35-06  
OAC 3301-46-01

CROSS REFS.: IGCD, Educational Options (Also LEB)  
JN, Student Fees, Fines and Charges

**~~THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY~~**

**NOTE: The use of innovative education programs is optional and the policy is not required, however, it is strongly recommended that districts have this policy in place if they are implementing these programs or may consider implementing them in the future.**

Legal

ORC 3302.07

OAC 3301-35-04

OAC 3301-35-06

OAC 3301-46-01