



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
300 DON GASPAR  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786  
Telephone (505) 827-5800  
[www.ped.state.nm.us](http://www.ped.state.nm.us)

KAREN TRUJILLO, PH.D.  
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

July 1, 2019

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Superintendents  
Charter School Leaders

**FROM:** Katarina "Kata" Sandoval, Deputy Secretary *KS*  
Gwen Perea-Warniment, Deputy Secretary *GW*

**RE: Partial Credit for High School Courses for Students Who Experience Disruption**

---

On April 3, 2019 Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed Senate Bill (SB) 341 into law. SB341 amends 22-12-10 NMSA, 1978 and allows students who experience disruption in their education during the school year to receive partial credit for high school courses. A student who has experienced disruption in the student's education means a student:

- Who is homeless as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;
- Who is Adjudicated:
  - As an abused or neglected child as determined by the Children, Youth and Families Department in accordance with the Abuse and Neglect Act;
  - As part of a family in need of court-ordered services voluntary placement in accordance with the Family Services Act;
  - As a delinquent if the parent wished to disclose the adjudication of delinquency; or
- Who is placed in a mental health treatment facility or habilitation program for developmental disabilities in accordance with the Children's Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Act or placement in treatment foster care.

Changing schools multiple times significantly impedes a student's academic and social growth. Students in the foster care or juvenile justice system or that are experiencing homelessness who transfer schools mid-semester must receive credit for the work completed prior to their transfer

Therefore, students who have experienced disruption or who transfer between public schools in different school districts or between public schools within the same school district shall receive

credit for any work completed prior to the transfer regardless of whether or not the transfer occurred at the end of the grading period.

Credits must be assigned as follows:

Amount of Time Enrolled in Course Before Transfer	Amount of Credit for Courses
15-18 weeks	1.0 credit
12-14 weeks	0.75 credit
9-11 weeks	0.50 credit
5-8 weeks	0.25 credit
1-4 weeks	0.125 credit

Receiving schools shall apply all partial credits to the same/equivalent course and place the student in the same/equivalent course, if the course was not completed. If the same/equivalent course is unclear, the receiving school shall contact the sending school for clarity and/or consult with the appropriate school or school district liaison.

Using this guidance from the Public Education Department (PED), school districts and charter schools shall create policies to determine how the credit shall be awarded for the partial completion of courses.

We have attached a copy of 22-12-10 NMSA, 1978 for you to review in its entirety since it includes other critical information regarding students who have experienced an educational disruption. If you have any questions or require any support, please contact the following staff:

- Students experiencing homelessness: Dana Malone [dana.malone@state.nm.us](mailto:dana.malone@state.nm.us)
- Students in foster care: Laura Henry [laura.henry@state.nm.us](mailto:laura.henry@state.nm.us)
- Students who are adjudicated due to neglect or delinquency: Ken Stowe [kenneth.stowe@state.nm.us](mailto:kenneth.stowe@state.nm.us)
- Students with disabilities placed in a mental health treatment facility or habilitation program: Deborah Dominguez-Clark [deborah.clark@state.nm.us](mailto:deborah.clark@state.nm.us)

Enc: (1) 22-12-10 NMSA, 1978 Timely Graduation and Support for Students Who Experience Disruption in the Student's Education - Partial Credit for Courses

cc: Dr. Karen Trujillo, Secretary of Education  
Kara Bobroff, Deputy Secretary  
Dr. Timothy Hand, Deputy Secretary  
Gabe Baca, Director, Student, School and Family Support Bureau  
Michael Chavez, Director, Student Success and Wellness Bureau  
Elaine Perea, Director, College and Career Readiness Bureau  
Deborah Dominguez-Clark, Director, Special Education Bureau  
Laura Henry, Foster Point of Contact, PED  
Dana Malone, State Coordinator, McKinney-Vento  
Ken Stowe, State Coordinator, Title I Part D  
Regional Education Cooperatives  
School District Foster Points of Contact  
McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaisons