

## INDEPENDENT STUDY AND MENTOR PROGRAMS

1. Independent study and mentor programs are not restricted to students identified as gifted. However, participating students should demonstrate ability in the subject field which is selected.
2. The projects should be cooperatively chosen by the student and mentor or teacher, and professional knowledge and judgement as well as anticipated value to the student should be the basis for approval.
3. Project type, project length, form of the final report, credit and tentative date for completion of the project should be determined by the teacher PRIOR to beginning the project.
4. Arrangements for supervision and evaluation sessions should be tentatively established prior to beginning the project.
5. Project supervision is to be done by a staff member who is certified in the subject area of the project.
6. Supervision of students working on projects should occur at least two times weekly and is the student's responsibility to initiate arrangements for these sessions.
7. The level of difficulty or intensity of each project should be equal to or exceed the level of the corresponding subject area on the student's grade level.
8. No work on projects is to be completed during scheduled class time. Work should be done during study periods or out-of-school.
9. The principal and superintendent will approve all projects prior to their beginning.
10. Grade and credit are to be given by a staff member who is advising the student in the subject area field of the project.
11. If credit is expected, the clock hours spent on the project are to be no less than the minimum hours mandated by the State of Ohio for regular classroom credit.  

30 clock hours for  $\frac{1}{4}$  credit of 40 clock hours for  $\frac{1}{4}$  credit (lab)  
60 clock hours for  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit or 75 clock hours for  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit (lab)  
120 clock hours for one credit or 150 clock hours for one credit (lab)
12. Upon completion of the project, a brief explanation of that project should be recorded in the student's permanent record folder.

Adopted: November 17, 1993

Reviewed: April 20, 2002

Columbia Schools, Columbia Station, Ohio