

281—15.4(256) Online learning provided by area education agencies.

15.4(1) *Online learning program delivered by area education agencies.* Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general assembly for this purpose, AEAs may provide an online learning program to deliver distance education to Iowa's secondary students, including students receiving competent private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A. An AEA may provide an online learning program separately, in collaboration with other AEAs, or in partnership with school districts and accredited nonpublic schools.

15.4(2) *Student participation.* To participate in an online learning program offered by an AEA, a student must be enrolled in a participating school district or accredited nonpublic school or be receiving competent private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A.

15.4(3) *District responsibility.* The school district or accredited nonpublic school in which the student is enrolled is responsible for:

- a. Recording a student's program coursework grades in the student's permanent record.
- b. Awarding high school credit for program coursework.
- c. Issuing a high school diploma to a student enrolled in the district or school who participates and completes coursework under the program.
- d. Identifying a site coordinator to serve as a student advocate and as a liaison between the program staff and teachers and the school district or accredited nonpublic school.

15.4(4) *Cost.* School districts and accredited nonpublic schools will pay to AEAs the actual cost of providing coursework under an online learning program offered in accordance with this rule.

15.4(5) *Course content and delivery.* Content and delivery provided by an online learning program established pursuant to this rule must meet the provisions of Iowa Code section 256.7(32)“c.” Grades in online courses are awarded based on Iowa Code section 256.43(3).

15.4(6) *Competent private instruction.* This rule applies to students receiving competent private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A. To participate in an online learning program offered by an area education agency, a student receiving competent private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A will take whatever steps are necessary to enroll with the student's district of residence. The coursework offered by AEAs pursuant to this subrule must be taught and supervised by a teacher appropriately licensed by the BOEE who has online learning experience, and the course content must meet the provisions of Iowa Code section 256.7(32)“c.”

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