

**CREDIT FLEXIBILITY OPTION
(CFO)
Mount Vernon High School**

- Philosophy:** Credit Flex awards credit based on competence. Research confirms that varying time and instructional methodology, while maintaining quality, can cultivate the kind of self-directed learning that is essential for success in postsecondary education and careers – and throughout life. The MVHS credit flexibility plan is designed to focus on supporting and accelerating student learning and reflects the need for students’ readiness for careers and college without remediation.
- Eligibility:** Any student entering grades 8-12 who:
- 1) Meets the established course pre-requisites
 - 2) Demonstrates competency in the content area he/she wishes to study further.
 - 3) Possesses sufficient skills or knowledge to be able to work independently.
 - 4) Analyzes, synthesizes and evaluates information and resources.
 - 5) Researches independently and completes learning activities on time.
- Credit:** All credit will have equitable value regardless of how it is earned. Student records and other documentation will not differentiate credit based on how it is earned. All college level courses that align with MVHS courses will be accepted for high school credit, with the amount and type of credit awarded to be determined by the Credit Flexibility Panel. Equivalency for a Carnegie unit will be based on mastery of one year’s worth of course content as described in Ohio’s Academic Content Standards. Students must meet established course pre-requisites for course level advancements.
- Pre-Approved Courses:** The courses with pre-approved status are Apex courses as described in the Course Handbook. The cost of Apex courses will be \$150.00 per course. This cost is non-refundable.
- Student Proposals:** Students who elect a course that is not pre-approved, will need to submit a course proposal in writing to the Building Principal. The proposal must include:
- a) Clearly defined goals which are tied directly to Ohio’s Academic Content Standards. Clearly described activities which will lead to successful attainment of described goals. Academic Content Standards are located on ODE’s webpage at www.ode.state.oh.us.
 - b) Description and rubric for how the goals will be measured against Ohio’s Academic Content Standards in order to provide evidence of student learning.
 - c) Timeline of proposed activities and measurements, including target date and time for final review.
- Additional cost associated with student proposed activities, materials, and assessments for credit flexibility will be the sole responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s).
- The Credit Flexibility Panel (HS Building Principal, HS Counselor, and HS Department Chair or department designee) will review the student proposal and determine approval, need for revision or decline proposal. The school reserves the right to alter the proposed timeline, and/or assessments required for flexible credit prior to signing the proposal and creating the agreement.*
- Upon approval by the Credit Flexibility Panel, the school guidance counselor and EMIS professional will be notified that the student has been enrolled in a credit flexibility option. Building principal, student’s parent(s), student and counselor will review and sign a credit flexibility contract, addressing any modifications or suggestions by the school.
- At the completion of the activities and/or assessments for the proposed flexible credit, the student will meet with the Credit Flexibility Panel. The student will present the proposed evidence and will respond to any questions or requests for demonstration of skill and/or knowledge asked by the panel. After hearing the student’s oral evidence and/or examining evidence of learning, the panel will determine if criteria for receiving credit has been met and if so, will assign grade earned.

Submission

Dates: Pre-approved Apex course request needs to be made to the High School Guidance Office Counselor no later than **April 1st**. Student proposal application may be submitted between February 15th and before spring break for implementation for the following school year. Notification of proposal review will follow.

Drop Process: Student may enter into similar course offered at MVHS with no penalty. If no similar course exists or student does not want to continue study in such course, the school drop policy will be followed; refer to schedule changes in the student handbook.

Athletic and
Co-Curricular
Eligibility:

Weekly eligibility as adopted by the Board of Education also applies to all credit flexibility options. Student's academic progress will be monitored each week to determine eligibility. All student athletes must pass all five classes per week. Any student failing a class and not taking more than five classes must have an Intervention Form signed by the teacher and coach and given to the Athletic Director by Tuesday morning to remain eligible. This form will indicate what intervention will take place by the teacher and student. The student must have the form signed once again to show growth the following week to continue to be eligible.

Attempts: Students may only attempt the credit flexibility option once (1) for a particular course.

Grading: School grading scale and MVHS grading policies will be followed. Final grade will be calculated into student's GPA.

Appeal
Process:

All appeals regarding denial of participation in the credit flexibility option or denial of credit in the credit flexibility option program will be placed in writing and submitted to the HS Building Principal within 10 school days.

The Review Board will consist of the Secondary Curriculum Director, HS content area department chair, a classroom teacher of the content area studied chosen by the student, HS counselor and the HS building principal. The Review Board will examine any student appeals concerning denial of participation in the credit flexibility option and/or denial of credit in the credit flexibility option. The decision of the Review Board will be by majority vote and will be the final determination in the appeal process.

MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL
Credit Flexibility Option (CFO)
Proposal

The Credit Flexibility Option (CFO) is designed to focus on supporting and accelerating student learning and reflects the need for students' readiness for careers and college without remediation.

Student Name: _____ Current Grade: _____

Parent Name: _____ Parent Daytime Phone #: _____

Course Title: _____ Parent Email: _____

Briefly describe rationale for requesting Credit Flexibility Option.

What type of credit flexibility are you requesting?

- Opportunity to test out.
- Opportunity to earn credit by completing a self-paced online course through Apex.
- Opportunity to propose a course of study.
 Clearly and thoroughly explain your proposed course of study. Be sure to address the following questions below. Additional paper will need to be used for you to completely explain your proposal.
 1. What are the goals and/or objectives that you want to learn?
 2. How are these goals and/or objectives directly tied to all the state standards? www.ode.state.oh.us.
 3. What activities will be completed to support your learning?
 4. What will be your method of assessment? How do you propose showing mastery of your topic? Explain how your choice of assessment will be aligned to Ohio's Academic Content Standards.
 5. Outline your timeline of study for this course. Be sure to include start date, activity dates, measurement dates, and final presentation date.

Student Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

*Final Assessment will be reviewed by the Credit Flexibility Panel.

Office Use

Date Received _____