

PLAR Challenge Process: Information for Students and Families

The PLAR Challenge Process (PPM 129)

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired outside secondary school. Students enrolled in Ontario secondary schools may have their knowledge and skills evaluated against the expectations outlined in provincial curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits towards the secondary school diploma. This formal evaluation and accreditation process is known as Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR).

The “PLAR challenge process” refers to the process whereby a students’ prior learning is assessed for the purpose of granting credit for a Grade 10, 11 or 12 course.

Students may apply to challenge for credit only Grade 10, 11 and 12 courses developed from a provincial curriculum policy document. Students may earn no more than four credits through the challenge process, including a maximum of two credits in one subject area.

A student:

- is eligible to challenge credits that have not been completed or attempted through previous enrolment, in the past four years
- may challenge a Grade 10, 11 or 12 course regardless of their current grade
- may only challenge a course that is offered by the Board

Reporting Challenged Credits

- for challenges for credit of Grade 10 courses, only passing grades will be entered on the Ontario Student Transcript
- for challenges for credit of Grade 11 and 12 courses, passing and failing grades will be entered on the Ontario Student Transcript (Full Disclosure)

The PLAR Challenge Process:

Step 1: Inform the Principal of your intent to challenge for credit a particular course/subject by the end of January

Step 2: Complete the Application Form and submit to the Principal by the end of March

Step 3: Meet with the Principal/School Team to discuss the Application, review Ontario Student Transcript and IEP (if applicable), and receive course specific assessment materials and timelines.

Step 4: Complete the Assessment on the date provided by the Principal (before the end of May). Specific location and times will be communicated after the material presented in Step 3 is assessed. A percentage grade will be determined based on assessment of 70% from formal tests and 30% from a variety of other assessment strategies appropriate to the subject.

Step 5: Students will be provided with the resulting percentage grade earned through the PLAR challenge process.