

Alternative High School Application Guidance

SFN 50090

Purpose

Districts seeking approval to operate an alternative high school must provide to the NDDPI's Office of School Approval & Opportunity considerable detail to the questions in *Section II: Program Description* of the Alternative High School (AHS) Application. The guidance below provides details that districts are strongly encouraged to address when completing the *Program Description* section of the SFN 50090.

Approval Requirements

Application will not be accepted if the program does not meet all approval criteria listed below:

- ****New schools ONLY-** the school has completed the school approval process.
- ****School districts entering a cooperative agreement ONLY-**Copies of the agreement are attached.
- The alternative high school operates in a separate building or is located within a school, but separate wing.
- High school coursework leading to graduation differs from the methods of a traditional high school model.
- The alternative high school serves students ages 16-21.
- School Board President & School District Superintendent have provided a signature for certification.

Program Description

A. Identify the setting, location, and alternative high school schedule that will be available to students.

- Address whether the AHS will operate in a separate facility or within another facility. If operating within a facility, provide details of that setting.
- Address the space available for students in the AHS setting (will students have adequate amounts of personal space? How many students per classroom? etc.)
- Describe the school day schedule options available for students.
- How much of the students' enrollment will be in an alternative high school setting?

B. Provide information on the staffing of the alternative high school.

- Describe the teachers, instructional support, and administrative staff that will be working in the AHS:
 - Will staff be assigned full time? Part-time? Will teachers share duties?
 - Describe the certified, highly qualified staff roles.
 - Student:Staff Ratio
 - What support services are made available for AHS?
 - Describe the professional development trainings offered to staff or will be offered that is specific to drop-out prevention strategies.

C. Describe the delivery model and instructional supports that will be offered.

- Instructional model and delivery of academic requirements towards high school graduation.
- Differentiation options
- How much of the school day is provided by online virtual instruction?
- Courses offered beyond core-academic requirements (electives, etc.)

D. Describe in detail what makes the alternative high school different from the traditional high school model.

- Describe what the alternative high school will offer that is different or is amplified at the AHS. The details provided should indicate more extensive supports than the traditional high school model.

For questions regarding the NDDPI Alternative Application, please contact [Arlene Wolf](#).