

Parent's Guide to Negotiating with Schools

CTYOnline works closely with schools, and it is our desire that all students receive the appropriate credit or placement for coursework completed through our distance education program. However, CTY is not a credit-granting institution; only your school can grant placement or credit, and this may take some negotiation. Before beginning a CTYOnline course, you should discuss credit and/or placement issues with a school administrator. You may also want to discuss the possibility of substituting an appropriate CTYOnline course for the student's current class at school. The school may want to review curricula or discuss course content. Visit www.cty.jhu.edu/courses.html and click on the course title to print out the course description and the Detailed Course Information.

Meet with the school official

Identify a school official to help you who understands the needs of academically talented students. In the elementary or middle school, this may be the person who distributes information about our CTY Talent Search. In the high school, this may be a guidance counselor, Gifted and Talented program coordinator, or the principal. If your child is in middle school or junior high school, you may need to talk to high school personnel if you are interested in receiving credit. To prepare for your meeting:

- understand your child's educational options
- be knowledgeable about the CTYOnline course you have chosen
- gather data about your child's academic strengths

Understand your child's educational options

Be familiar with the courses that are available to your child at the local middle or junior high school and high school and when those courses would normally be taken. Ask the school what options are available for your child. Discuss the possibility of substituting an appropriate CTYOnline course for your child's current class at school. This would mean that the child would work on a CTYOnline course at school using a computer with high speed internet access instead of attending the scheduled class in school. Alternatively, the student may remain in the regularly scheduled math class at school and work on the CTYOnline computer-based program at home.

Be knowledgeable about the CTYOnline course you have chosen

Schools must understand that CTYOnline distance education courses are rigorous and that a student must attain a score of 80 or higher on a comprehensive final examination to pass the course. If the student is using the course work to replace a course at school, progress reports can be issued upon parent's written request for the student's report card periods.

Students enrolled in every CTYOnline course are assigned an instructor to guide them through the course. CTYOnline instructors are selected for knowledge of their disciplines and teaching experience. They include outstanding high school teachers, graduate students, and college professors. Some representative instructor biographies are available at <http://cty.jhu.edu/cde/faculty.html>

Gather data about your child's academic strengths

Keep a portfolio of your student's work. Submit the student's portfolio for review every quarter or semester. All CTYOnline students receive course completion documents after successfully completing coursework through our program and these