

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery – FAQs

General Questions	
Question	Response from Academics and Student Services
Do other states have this same process?	Yes. There are at least 25 other states already implementing a similar process.
Will middle school students get high school credit?	Yes. If they successfully complete Phase 1 and Phase 2, they will get high school credit and their transcript will say "Pass."
Do all colleges accept CDM?	UNC system has said that they will recognize CDM. Private colleges/universities such as Duke have not made such a statement, nor have state universities of other states.
Are the schools equipped to meet the scheduling needs for students who are successful with CDM? For example, what about a student who successfully completes CDM for Math II and needs to take Math III in middle school?	In middle school, NCVPS might be the only option.
Are there a maximum number of courses a student can apply for CDM per year?	Students can apply for up to three total courses per year and only one course per content area per year. For example, a student cannot apply for English I and English II in the same year.
Will there be rigorous courses available if students are successful in earning CDM?	Course offerings vary by school. Prior to applying for this process, you should speak to the school counselor to determine course options.
Where should we turn in the Student and Family Application?	Turn it in to the Student Services office at your school.
Is this available only to AG students?	No
Are there benefits to seniors applying for this now?	No. Students that will graduate during this school year are not eligible to apply.
Is it only applicable for courses in the correct sequence?	Yes. You must complete the courses (either through seat time or CDM) by using the prescribed sequence (if a sequence exists).
Once we complete the application, should we expect that the counselor will contact us?	Yes. It will be the counselor or a member of the school's CDM team.
Where will we find resources for preparing for the assessments?	Students should only apply for this process if they are already proficient in the course content; students should not need help sessions or outside tutoring. The standards on which the assessments will be based are online: http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/ Schools will not provide textbooks or other resources to be used for test-prep purposes.
Can you apply to CDM a course that you are currently taking?	No. You cannot apply for any class that is on the student's schedule during the current school year.

What will happen to student schedules if they pass the CDM process in the spring?	Schools will work to ensure that students are appropriately scheduled based on their CDM results.
Why aren't honors and AP courses available for CDM?	This policy is set by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.
Are there any fees associated with this process?	No.
Will there be a centralized location for taking the assessments?	Assessments will be given at the students' own school.
Will this process allow students to take a lighter load in the junior and senior year?	Yes, but this may be frowned upon by college admissions offices because it may appear that the student chose not to pursue rigorous opportunities.
If they attempt CDM and are not successful, how does this affect their permanent record?	It will not affect their transcript nor will it show up on their permanent record.
How often will this process occur?	This process will occur once per school year.
Questions about Phase 1	
Question	Response from Academics and Student Services
How are you going to validate the locally developed assessments for Phase One?	We will use teachers and assessment specialists to make sure the tests are reliable assessments.
Some students don't test well. Does Phase 1 have to be objective test?	Yes. This is mandated by the state.
Questions about Phase 2	
Question	Response from Academics and Student Services
Will there be examples of the math component for Phase 2?	No, but all tasks will be consistent from school to school within each subject area. Math might require a portfolio based on Math Performance Tasks.
How will students know what the expectations are for Phase 2?	All students in WCPSS will complete the same Phase 2 task per course. The structure will be provided to the student several weeks in advance of the final due date.