

WHY ELOs?

- Improved attitude toward school
- More opportunities to learn about and choose college and career options
- Stronger connections to adults and peers
- Improved health and ability to make healthy choices
- Lower drop-out rates and higher rates of school attendance²

*ELOs Help Students
to Take an Active Role
in Their Education*



The following sources are referenced in this brochure. For more information about ELOs please visit:

NH Department of Education
www.education.nh.gov

Keene State College ELO Resource
www.beyondclassroom.org

Concord High School
ELO Brochure | chs.concordnhschools.net

¹ National Center on Inclusive Education at the Institute on Disability, *Developing Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) for Students with Disabilities: Guidelines and Talking Points* www.inclusiveed.org

² National Conference of State Legislatures and Harvard Family Research Project, *ELO Research, Policy and Practice briefs*, Harris, E., Deschenes, S. & Wallace, A. (2011) www.hfrp.org

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PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL
THINK DIFFERENT
EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



EARNING HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES (ELOs)

ELOs provide an opportunity to explore beyond school walls, to work with local experts, gain valuable real-world knowledge and skills, and earn high school credit.

ELOs address individual learning styles, talents, and interests.

ELOs have a plan that defines how the project works, the related competencies, and what is expected to complete the ELO successfully.

ELOs provide a hands-on way of exploring potential careers, gaining independent living skills, and providing a community service, all while earning elective or core credit.

ELOs look different at different schools. Each school district creates its own policy.

One thing all ELOs have in common is that a student earns high school credit in a non-traditional learning environment (outside of a classroom).



HOW CAN PARENTS BE INVOLVED?

Parents can...

Learn about your school's ELO policy.

Talk to an ELO Coordinator, Special Ed. Case Manager or School Counselor to learn more about competencies and ELOs.

Work with your child to discuss his or her interests and talk about how these might fit into an ELO.

Help your child or school to identify a potential community partner (it could be a neighbor, relative or local business).

Support and prepare your child to self-advocate. Work with your child and the school to ensure that program goals and activities are in line with larger learning goals.

Communicate about progress and concerns regularly with your child, community partner, and school staff.



WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS A DISABILITY?

All students are eligible to participate in ELOs.

Encourage the ELO Coordinator or designated staff member to work with the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan Team.

Parents, students and other IEP Team members can contribute important information about how the student best learns, scheduling, transportation and supports that can be provided.

The IEP Team may also consider alternative means for assessing competence to accommodate each student's unique communication, learning preferences and needs.¹



Being Interested and Involved in Your Child's Education is a Key to Boosting Their Success in School