A continuation high school is an educational option for students aged 16 and older.

- Students have been identified as at-risk for graduation.
- Students are often credit deficient.
- Need a flexible environment.

**OUTCOMES**

- Drop out prevention.
- Recovery of out-of-school youth.
- Increased retention and graduation.
- Learning gains for students.
- Support for foster youth and diversion from criminal justice system.
- Supportive educational environment.
- Students recover an average of 15.4 credits per quarter.
CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOLS

12 of the School Districts in Orange County with high schools have a continuation school program:

AUHSD  SAUSD  NMUSD
FJUHSD  HBUSD  CUSD
PYLUSD  TUSD  BOUSD
OUSD  IUSD  SVUSD
MONTE VISTA/IS

- Independent Study program
- Offers an academic program that is equal in quality, quantity to classroom instruction
- Content is aligned to grade level standards
- Access to courses needed for graduation and A-G admissions criteria
- Students may only enroll voluntarily and is continuously voluntary
- Teachers have valid credentials

OUTCOMES

- Students obtain credits towards high school graduation/diploma
- Provides a flexible learning environment
TEACHER QUALITY
- Provides direction and resources for student to meet academic goals
- Provides additional assistance as necessary
- Credentialed
- Participate in trainings, committees and collaboration opportunities

STUDENT ADMISSION AND SUPPORTS
- Student and family enter into an agreement or contract
- Student should be working at grade level and has demonstrated ability to work independently
- Student have regularly scheduled meetings with their teachers on a frequent basis to monitor progress

STANDARDS-ALIGNED CURRICULUM AND MATERIALS
- Courses and materials are aligned to state standards and textbooks are those most recently adopted by NMUSD
- Lessons are planned and developed based on the subject
- Supplemental materials are provided to enhance learning
- Teachers participate in staff development and professional learning opportunities

ASSESSMENT AND STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
- Student and teacher monitor academic progress and use assessments and other data to support student academic program
- Modifications to instruction are based on student need
- Interventions are provided as needed

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND SCHOOL CLIMATE
- Promotes high achievement for all
- Collaborates with parents and teachers and students
- Create a sense of connectedness and engagement
- Shared expectations

LEGAL COMPLIANCE
- Must operate in compliance with state regulations and audit guidelines
CLOUD CAMPUS

ACHIEVEMENT
Students can achieve at high rates and set personal goals
Students who are engaged and ready to learn can be as successful as their peers at other schools
Flexibility can breed achievement

CULTURE
Parents and teachers work together to create a learning environment unique to each student
Climate and culture exists in all virtual spaces

LEARNING STYLE
100% Virtual
Meets the needs of students who have a unique learning style that fits their personality and their needs
Independent study or virtual programs offered as a form of independent study at school districts should be offered as a program, and are not a school type.

In addition, distance learning and independent study are not interchangeable. While there is commonality between the two programs, the distance learning requirements established in Part 24.5, of the Education Code beginning with Section 43500 are different than the requirements of independent study.
In 2021, there were 430 Continuation High Schools in California compromising 78,000 students.

There are 3,892 comprehensive high schools in California.

Most Orange County districts have an continuation high school in their Alternative Education Program.

Continuation High Schools have been an option since 1919.

Commencing with the 1990–91 school year, all districts were allowed to offer IS programs to meet the needs of students and set forth strict regulations (ed Code 51745).

Early and middle colleges were founded back east over 30 years ago.

Early college students are significantly more likely to graduate high school and enroll in college.

Early college students have an increased persistence rate and are more likely to earn a college degree.

Early college students earn a diploma and college credits with some acquiring an AA degree.

Early college programs support first generation college students and underserved populations.