

# San Diego Hua Xia Chinese School (SDHXCS) Credit Program

## **Frequently asked questions on Credit Program Placement Test**

### **Q: Who needs to take the test?**

A: This test is only for students who are eligible and wish to attend SDHXCS credit class in the Fall. The criteria are:

- 1) the student is entering 7th or higher grade in his/her regular school in the coming school year;
- 2) the student is going to attend a school in any of these districts: San Diego, San Dieguito, Poway, San Marcos, Carlsbad, Sweet Water, and Grossmont. Private school students need to consult with us.

### **Q: I am already in a SDHXCS credit class, do I need to take the test?**

A: No.

### **Q: What's the purpose of the test? Do I have to take the test?**

A: The purpose of this test is for us to better understand the language proficiency of the incoming students, so our teachers and the management team can be better prepared for the coming year. It is not mandatory but highly encouraged that all incoming students take the test.

### **Q: Can I skip Level I if I get good scores on this test?**

A: Skipping grade level is never encouraged in any school. However, considering the unique cultural background of SDHXCS students (most of them are heritage students who have strong Chinese influence at home), the school allows early advance to Level II for some students whose Chinese language proficiency and Chinese culture understanding is clearly beyond Level I standard.

### **Q: What's the "pass line" for advancing to Level II?**

A: For management purpose, the "pass line" is not announced, the test paper and test scores are not released. We try our best to identify each student's language proficiency and place them in the appropriate level.

### **Q: How and when do I know which level I am accepted to?**

A: If you are qualified to Level II, an individual notification email will be sent to the parent's email address provided in the registration form at any time between June and August. You certainly have the choice to start from Level I. No specific email notification will be sent to students who are accepted to Level I. For all students, a

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welcome email will be sent to you from your new teacher in August, normally 1-2 weeks before new school year starts. Your teacher will give you all the information you need for the school year.

**Q: Can I request to be placed at a higher level?**

A: No. Language proficiency and cultural understanding is gained gradually over time. "Sharpen up" yourself just for the test or take a more challenged course when you are not ready may put you in a disadvantaged position. It may interrupt your desire of learning and jeopardize your grades. This is the last we want for you.

**Q: Is there other opportunities to be advanced early to a higher level if I am already in a credit class?**

A: The school does offer challenge test under certain circumstances to a very limited number of students who, by studying harder and have progressed significantly during the year, meet certain criteria, and are recommended by the teachers. The challenge test is not publicly announced, and it may not apply to every grade level in any particular year.

**Q: Who should I talk to if I have other questions not addressed here?**

A: For academic related questions, you may discuss with your teacher directly. For other questions, please contact either the Principal Ms. Yi Cai ([yicai@sdhxcs.org](mailto:yicai@sdhxcs.org)) or the Vice Principal for credit program Ms. Xia Zhang ([xzhang@sdhxcs.org](mailto:xzhang@sdhxcs.org)) or you are welcome to meet them in the school office during the school days.