

Southern California Students Recover Credit with Imagine Edgenuity[®]

Overview

A large urban school district in Southern California has partnered with Imagine Learning for several years to support students in need of recovering previously unobtained course credits. Students who have failed a course are provided with the opportunity to retake the course and attain credit through Imagine Edgenuity. Following the 2023–2024 school year, Imagine Learning partnered with the district to measure student success in their use of Imagine Edgenuity.

School District in Southern California

Sample Demographics	
White (Non-Hispanic)	3%
Black or African American	4%
Hispanic or Latino	86%
Asian	4%
Economically Disadvantaged	90%
Students with Disabilities	14%
English Learners	27%

Results

Course grades and credit attainment rates offer clear indicators of student success in credit recovery courses. Summary data indicate that students who completed courses in Imagine Edgenuity earned strong grades, averaging 84% across math, ELA, science, social studies, and elective subjects. While this figure represents a simplified view of the full grade distribution, it nonetheless highlights that students are actively earning credit through meaningful engagement with a rigorous curriculum and learning experiences designed to support their future academic and career goals.

Reported credit attainment rates further highlight the impressive success of these students in fulfilling the requirements needed for credit recovery. As shown in Table 1, across all subject areas, 100% of students who completed courses through Imagine Edgenuity earned course credit. For context, a study conducted in the Los Angeles Unified School District found credit attainment rates of 62% in Algebra and 52% in English (Rickles et al., 2023). Similarly, a separate investigation in Chicago Public Schools reported Algebra credit attainment of approximately 66% (Heppen et al., 2016). Given these comparisons, the achievements of Southern California students stand out as exceptional, demonstrating that Imagine Edgenuity has effectively supported them in recovering credits and subsequently progressing toward their educational and career goals.

Table 1. Average Course Grades and Credit Attainment by Subject

	Math	ELA	Science	Social Studies	Electives
Average Grade	85.6%	83.2%	82.6%	83.6%	84.7%
Credit Attainment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

References

- Heppen, J. B., Sorensen, N., Allensworth, E., Walters, K., Rickles, J., Taylor, S. S., & Michelman, V. (2016). The Struggle to Pass Algebra: Online vs. Face-to-Face Credit Recovery for At-Risk Urban Students. *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness, 10*(2), 272–296. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19345747.2016.1168500>
- Rickles, J., Clements, M., Brodziak de los Reyes, I., Lachowicz, M., Lin, S., & Heppen, J. (2023). A Multisite Randomized Study of an Online Learning Approach to High School Credit Recovery: Effects on Student Experiences and Proximal Outcomes. *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness, 17*(3), 467–490. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19345747.2023.2198524>