

Passage Alternative Model

Note: The Passage - Alternative Model is a way of fulfilling a Passage requirement while gaining credit through another program/class (King Tech, peer-teaching, etc.) or working on a project outside of school, where no credit is gained (Presidential volunteer award). No additional credit will be awarded for this model, since students are receiving their credit elsewhere. To complete a Passage Alternative you will need to reference the Steller Passage Handbook to understand the different types of Passages as well as see examples and explanations for logging and journaling options.

Passage Alternatives

Here is a list of examples of alternative ways of meeting the Passage requirements outside of an accredited Passage class. Students may only use the type of alternative activity one time per Passage category. For example, students cannot use multiple King Tech classes to count as multiple Passages. Students must also work with their advisor and meet the requirements specified on the Alternative Passage Model.

Activities not listed are subject to faculty approval:

Practical Skills

- Practical Skills based King Tech classes (culinary arts, carpentry, etc.)
- Work Experience
- UAA/APU class that teaches practical skill i.e. computer programming

Career Exploration

- Peer Tutoring Class
- Seminar Coaching
- Gifted Mentorship
- Model UN or Mock Trial competition
- Co-teaching

Logical Inquiry

- Science Fair Participation
- Robotics Club and Competition

Adventure

- Student Exchange
- Sister School Exchange

Community Involvement

- Peer Teaching a class
- Co-Teaching
- Community Service hours of 75+ hours
- Seminar Coaching
- North Star Community Service
- 75 hours of Steller Leadership (OP group / class meetings / volunteering / committees)
- Collective Endeavor
- Community Service Intensive +outside hours to get to 75
- Leadership Class with an additional project

Creativity

- Mural outside of the Passage
- Participation in a community musical group

Passage Alternative Requirements: Every Passage Alternative is slightly different based on the nature of what you are doing, but **all** Passages need to include the following:

- This form, with an attached Proposal.
- Successful completion of alternative credit(s) OR documentation of 75 hours of non-credited work
 - Examples of alternative credits: North Star, King Tech, co-teaching, peer teaching, work experience, seminar coaching, etc.
 - Examples of non-credited work: Presidential Scholar, Steller leadership activities, Community service
- Journal/reflections made at least every two weeks or use of a log that includes narrative and reflective elements.
- Documentation of your experience through a portfolio maintained throughout the semester containing artifacts of process including, but not limited to:
 - Notes from advisor, at-home adult, and mentoring meetings
 - Notes from resources and the Passage process itself
 - Pictures and videos
- Regular updates given to teachers and/or advisor
- Self-assessments at quarter
- Final written reflection at the end of the semester
- Presentation at the end of the semester Passage Share Night with a visual component

Alternative Passage Proposal

Your Passage Alternative Proposals need to include the following:

1. Describe what you are doing for your Passage Alternative in the opening paragraph and why it should count as a Passage. You could use the “newspaper format” of who, what, when, where, why, and how. Try to make your statements as clear as possible; write them as if someone who knew nothing about Passages is reading your proposal.
2. Tell why your Passage Alternative is a challenge to you and what risks (physical, financial, social, and intellectual) you expect to experience. How will you overcome these?
3. Describe what led you to undertake this Passage Alternative. This could be prior experiences, strengths, or interests.
4. What are your goals for this Passage Alternative? What are you hoping to accomplish at its end?
5. Look through the required elements of a Passage Alternative and review the calendar with your Advisor and Passage Alternative Sponsor. Describe anything else that you need to do as part of this Passage Alternative and add to your calendar.
6. Choose a method of documenting your Passage Alternative. How will you show changes in skills, attitudes, behaviors, and knowledge? (Compile a list of ways to show progress.)
7. Include how your Passage Alternative meets the requirements for your specific Passage type.

Journal Requirements

You will work with your advisor during the proposal process to decide on how often you should complete a journal entry, but it should be something you do at least before your teacher meetings to reflect on what you accomplished, learned, and still need to focus on. If you choose to do a log instead, please look at the Passage Handbook for examples. Each entry should detail the tasks you accomplished for this time period and should be in paragraph format. You must use complete sentences and proper grammar. Be sure to reflect on the details you accomplished for this period, including but not limited

to the following:

- What did you accomplish and learn?
- Did you meet your goals from the previous entry?
- What decisions did you make?
 - Why did you make them?
 - Were they the best options?
- What resources did you use to help you complete your tasks?
- What obstacles did you come across and how did you resolve them?
- What did you learn?
- Where are you headed next?
- What information would add to your process or understanding?
- What are you still struggling with?
- What are your goals for the next couple of weeks?

Sample Journal Entry:

During class we focused on bread making. We started learning about the science behind the ingredients, such as yeast, and made basic dough recipes. This was the first time that I made bread. We made a few different types of bread-wheat and white, plus cinnamon rolls. We also visited Franz bakery to see how a wholesale bread making operation was run. All the machines were very impressive. Overall I learned that bread making is a time consuming hands on process, especially the kneading and rising times. My goal last week was to practice cooking at home, and over the weekend I made bread for my family. They said it was better than store bought. I took some pictures of my bread and the process I made it. Next week, I would like to visit Fire Island Bakery to try to get a tour and also want to try to make gluten free bread for my friend.

Artifact Requirements

Artifacts are objects related to your passage (pictures, documents, references, videos, etc.) and can be used to reflect on what you have done, provide evidence of your accomplishments, and be shared with the Steller community during your presentation at Passage Share Night.

How to write a quarter Self Reflection Quarter Self-Assessment

Type up a self-assessment that is organized and address each topic. Be sure to include the number/letter that corresponds with your answer.

1. Progress check
 - a. What have you accomplished or learned during your Passage Alternative? Be specific!!
 - b. What is your favorite part of your experience?
 - c. Are you on track with your original goals?
 - d. If you are logging your hours, how many hours have you logged so far?
2. How is your Passage Alternative challenging you? How are you reacting to the challenges?
3. Describe any peripheral learning that has occurred.
4. Do you need to revise your Passage Alternative? If so, list specific revisions.

5. At this point, what will you need to do to make your Passage Alternative successful and how will you know you have achieved your goals?
6. What is your plan for presenting your Passage Alternative to the Steller community during the Passage share.

How to Write a Final Reflection

1. Describe your Passage Alternative as you proposed it. The description should be written clearly, with attention to main events and/or highlights, so a person unfamiliar with you and/or Steller could understand this experience. Balance a need to “summarize” the experience with the equal need to keep the “life” in your writing about this Passage experience.
2. Tell what you accomplished and how you know you reached your goals.
3. Tell what obstacles, challenges, and risks you encountered in this Passage Alternative and how you dealt with them. Describe unexpected events, setbacks, and opportunities.
4. Describe turning points or highlights within the experience. These can be documented with excerpts from your journal.
5. Describe peripheral or unanticipated learning that occurred in this Passage Alternative.
6. Explain whether or not your expectations were realistic and discuss how your Passage Alternative changed over the course of the semester.
7. Craft a closing statement that includes the following:
 - how you feel about yourself and the completion of this Passage Alternative
 - why this Passage Alternative has made a difference in your life
 - where you will go from here in further exploration or experiences

Passage Alternative final reflections are due on _____

Be ready for your formal presentation to the community at Passage Share Night on _____

Be ready to turn in your entire Passage Alternative portfolio with all documentation on _____

Passage Alternative Form

Name _____ Grade _____

Year and Semester _____

Passage type (Adventure, Community Involvement, Practical Skills, Creativity, Career Exploration, Logical Inquiry)

Passage Alternative Title _____

Teachers and/or Advisors Involved

Name	Role (Advisor, sponsor teacher, etc.)	Contact Information

Student Signature _____

Advisor Signature _____

Teacher Sponsor Signature _____

Parent Acknowledgement: I have reviewed the Passage Alternative Requirements and my student's Alternative Passage Proposal.

Parent Signature _____