The term “credit recovery” entered the education lexicon in 2001 when the No Child Left Behind Act required states to set goals for raising graduation rates and judged schools on their progress. There is no generally accepted definition of the term, but real credit recovery provides a level of rigor and learning similar to regular classes. However, pressure to increase graduation rates has resulted in a type of pseudo credit recovery that looks like a credit mill, churning out graduates but failing to prepare students for what’s next.

Effective digital curriculum such as Apex Learning Courses and Tutorials provides rigor aligned to standards and actively engages students, resulting in more learning happening. You get higher grad rates and all students learn more — it’s worth doing right!

### Signs Your Credit Recovery Program Could Be a Credit Mill

**1. Students complete a semester’s worth of work in a matter of days.**

**2. Students go from dropping out to graduating in less than six weeks.**

**3. Students graduate without passing any EOCs or other required graduation tests.**

**4. Pressure to pass students outweighs pressure to prepare students.**

**5. Your online credit recovery curriculum lacks reporting.**

**6. Students work individually on courses without any teacher input.**

**7. Teachers and administrators are experiencing overwhelming pressure to raise graduation rates too quickly.**

**8. Students perform poorly on ACT®, SAT®, and other assessment exams.**

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**How to Rehab Your Credit Recovery Program**

A credit mill gets grad rates up quickly, but real credit recovery raises grad rates and enables more learning so that students are really ready for college, work, and life.

Visit our website to learn more about Credit Recovery Programs. ApexLearning.com @Apex_Learning