

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS POLICY

1.0 Graduation Requirements

The state graduation requirements total 24 credits. See Charts V (A) through V (D), contained in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2510 for specific credits required for graduation.

1.1 The courses needed for graduation, indicated in Charts V (A) through V (D) require mastery of the West Virginia Board of Education and county board of education approved content standards and objectives. The level of mastery shall be determined in compliance with West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2515 and with West Virginia Board of Education Policies 2520.1 through 2520.17, 21st Century Content Standards and Objectives for West Virginia Schools (hereinafter CSOs).

1.2 The Board shall not schedule class periods in a manner that results in fewer than 8100 minutes of instructional time allotted for a high school course credit unless it obtains a waiver from the West Virginia Board of Education prior to implementing such a schedule. Courses approved through the West Virginia Virtual School approval process may be exempt from this requirement. The Board and South Branch Technical Education Center may, in order to accommodate transportation times for students, schedule courses for credit with fewer than 8100 minutes of instructional time provided the center documents student mastery of the content standards for those courses.

1.3 The Board shall ensure that students have access to at least four College Board AP® courses annually. All AP® courses must have a syllabus approved through the College Board. Effective 2012-13, all AP® course shall be taught by a teacher who has completed the required professional development (Section 7.5.c.8.). Access to AP® courses may also be met via West Virginia Virtual School AP® courses. West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2515 requires that grades earned in an AP® course be weighted.

1.4 Additional courses not identified in Chart VI of West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2510 may be offered to afford students the opportunity to attain mastery of the content standards and objectives, to broaden and enrich their education, and to support academic and career development. Any elective offering must be based on West Virginia Board of Education approved content standards and objectives if available or based on written content standards and objectives that are approved by the Board.

1.5 Any student who successfully completes a high school level course (one meeting the high school approved content standards and objectives and taught by a content certified teacher) prior to grade 9 shall receive full credit for that course toward graduation requirements. The student's permanent record for grades 9-12 shall indicate completion of the courses. The grade for any course taken prior to grade 9 becomes part of the student's permanent record and is calculated in the student's grade point average (hereinafter GPA).

1.6 All students will receive appropriate grades and/or credit for all work completed while attending school, regardless of the duration of their enrollment period.

1.7 High School Diploma. The Board shall award a high school diploma to every student who has completed the standard graduation requirements.

2.0 An eligible student with disabilities who has been determined by an IEP Team to be unable even with extended learning opportunities and significant instructional modifications to meet state and county standard graduation requirements may receive a modified diploma.

2.1 Beginning with school year 2008-2009, an eligible student with disabilities who meets the criteria for instruction based on modified standards may pursue either a standard or modified diploma. These decisions are specified on the student’s IEP.

3.0 High School Credential

Beginning with the graduating class of school year 2008-2009, the school system shall offer the following high school credentials for qualifying graduating students.

3.1 College Readiness Credential. Any student who scores at or above the college readiness benchmarks as defined by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, shall receive a college readiness credential.

3.2 Work Readiness Credential. Any student who completes an approved career/technical concentration and obtains a passing score on ACT Work Keys assessments shall receive a work readiness credential.

4.0 Review Schedule

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with the Policy Review Schedule published by the Superintendent.

Authority: West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2510

Adopted: 03/25/14

Revised: _____