

IKF - HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

(Download policy)

Category: Priority/Require by Law

A minimum of twenty (20) credits are required to graduate and earn a high school diploma. The required subjects and credits for high school graduation are (Ed 306.27, Table 306-2):

Required Subjects and Credits for High School Graduation	Credit(s):
Arts education ½ credit	
Information and communications technologies	½ credit
English 4 credits	
Mathematics 3 credits (including algebra credit that can be earned through a sequential, integrated, or applied program)	
Physical sciences 1 credit	
Biological sciences 1 credit	
US and NH history 1 credit	
US and NH government/civics credit	½
Economics, including personal finance credit	½
World history, global studies, or geography	½ credit
Health education ½ credit	
Physical education 1 credit	
Open electives <u>6 credits</u>	
Totals: 20 credits	

The Board reserves the right to require additional academic requirements necessary to graduate from high school.

In addition to the twenty (20) credits listed above required to graduate and earn a high school diploma, the district also requires students to demonstrate proficiency in competencies from the following content areas (Ed 306.27, Table 306-3):

Required Graduation Competencies by Content Areas	Credit(s):
Arts education: ½ credit	
Information and communications technologies:	½ credit
English: 4 credits	
Mathematics that encompasses algebra, mathematical modeling, statistics and probability, complex applications of measurement, applied geometry, graphical presentation and interpretation, statistics and data analysis:	3 credits
Physical sciences: 1 credit	
Biological sciences: 1 credit	
US and NH history: 1 credit	
US and NH government/civics: credit	½
Economics, including personal finance: credit	½
World history, global studies, or geography:	½ credit
Health education: ½ credit	
Physical education: 1 credit	
Open electives: <u>6 credits</u>	
Totals: 20 credits	

Awarding of Credit

Credit will be awarded in accordance with Policy IK, Earning of Credit. Additionally, a unit of credit or fraction thereof shall be given upon satisfactory completion of a course or learning experience in compliance with the district-specified curriculum and assessment standards. In some cases, course credit may also be awarded based on demonstrated mastery of the required competencies for the course. Assessment of mastery will be the responsibility of the Principal,

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and will be in accordance with Policy ILBAA, High School Competency Assessments. Credit will be awarded only once for a specific required course with the same content during the secondary school experience.

Alternative Credit Options

The Superintendent may approve the granting of credit earned through alternative methods outside of regular classroom-based instruction. Such alternative methods of instruction may include extended learning opportunities, distance education, alternative learning plans, or others approved by the Superintendent or designee. Awarding of credits to be applied toward high school graduation requirements will be determined by the high school Principal on a case-by-case basis. Such credit will be granted pursuant to the provisions of Policy IMBC, Alternative Credit Options and other applicable Board policies

Alternative Learning Plans

As an alternative to satisfying the provisions of this policy and related State requirements, students may also graduate from high school and obtain either a high school diploma or its equivalent by participating in an alternative learning plan or program. The provisions of Policy IHBI, Alternative Learning Plans, shall apply in such an event.

Passage of Civics Exam:

The district will develop a competency assessment of United States government and civics, consistent with pertinent and applicable law. This assessment will be administered to students as part of the high school course in history and government of the United States and New Hampshire. Students who attain a passing grade on this assessment will be eligible to receive a high school diploma.

The Board supports early graduation as a means to earn a high school diploma. Parental involvement for students under the age of 18 is required. The high school principal shall approve such requests if he/she determines that all state and local graduation requirements will be met and that early graduation is related to career and/or educational plans of the student making the request. Upon approval by the high school principal, the minimum 4-unit requirement per year for enrolled students shall be waived and the student shall be awarded a high school diploma.

NHSBA Note, September 2016: Amendments to this Sample Policy are necessary due to the passage of SB 157, which amends RSA 189:11. These legislative amendments require school districts to develop a local competency assessment in the area of National and State History and government. Passage of this assessment is required in order for students to graduate and receive a high school diploma.

Legal References:

*NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(ad), Early Graduation
RSA 189:11, Instruction in National and State History and Government.*

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