

INSTRUCTION

High School Graduation Requirements

A total of twenty-one (21) credits in grades 9 through 12 shall be required for graduation from high school through the graduating class of 2020; twenty-four (24) credits shall be required for graduation beginning with the graduating class of 2021. High school credit will be awarded for successful completion of a specified unit of study. For 1.0 credit, a student must successfully complete courses taught to the State's essential learning requirements (learning standards) or a student must demonstrate proficiency/mastery of learning standards as determined by the District. All students must meet this minimum requirement (including specific required courses) to participate in the commencement exercises.

A high school student, currently enrolled in Kennewick School District, may challenge particular courses for credit toward graduation by demonstrating proficiency through an assessment on a set of specific standards of the District approved course being challenged.

Unless requested otherwise by the student and the student's family, a student who completed high school courses before attending high school must be given high school credit that applies to high school graduation requirements.

Each student who has met all District graduation requirements shall be awarded a diploma. The Board of Directors shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in the District who meets the requirements of graduation established by the District. Only one diploma will be awarded with no distinctions being made between the various programs of instruction which have been pursued.

The requirements for graduation shall be the completion of work and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades 9-12. The minimum subject areas and credits therein shall be as follows:

Courses Required for Graduation

<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credits Required</u>	
	Through Class of 2020	Beginning Class of 2021
English	4.0 Credits	4.0 Credits
Mathematics	3.0 Credits	3.0 Credits
Social Studies	3.0 Credits	3.0 Credits
Science	2.0 Credits (1 Lab)	3.0 Credits (2 Labs)
Occupational Education	1.0 Credits	
Career & Technical Education		1.0 Credits
Health and Fitness	2.0 Credits	2.0 Credits
Arts	1.0 Credits	2.0 Credits*
World Language	—	2.0 Credits**

Policy No. 2410
High School Graduation Requirements - Continued

Electives	<u>5.0 Credits</u> 21.0 Credits	<u>4.0 Credits</u> 24.0 Credits
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*One Credit Can Be Personalized Pathway Requirement

**Both Credits Can Be Personalized Pathway Requirement

Personalized Pathway Requirements are related courses that lead to a specific post high school career or educational outcome chosen by the student based on the student's interests and High School and Beyond Plan.

Additional Non-Credit Graduation Requirements

All students are required to complete a High School and Beyond Plan and demonstrate computer competence. Students need to demonstrate readiness for post-secondary career or college via one or more pathways.

Procedures shall be developed for implementing this policy, which include:

1. Making graduation requirements available in writing to students, parents and members of the public.
2. Providing for a waiver of graduation requirements for individual circumstances when permitted.
3. Granting credit for Alternative Learning Experiences, online courses and equivalency courses of study.
4. Granting credit for correspondence and/or college courses including Running Start and College in the High School.
5. Granting credit for work site learning.
6. Granting credit for courses taken through home-based instruction.
7. Granting credit for courses taken at non-approved private schools.
8. Implementation of graduation requirements including the High School and Beyond Plan; the Computer Competency Assessment, and; demonstrated readiness for post-secondary career or college.
9. Granting credit for high school course(s) completed before a student attended high school, if the academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes.
10. Determining which courses satisfy particular subject area requirements and whether a particular course may satisfy more than one subject area requirement.
11. Granting credit for planned instructional activities for credit meeting minimum time requirements or based upon demonstration of proficiency/mastery of content standards.
12. Challenging courses for credit based upon the student demonstrating proficiency through an assessment of a set of specific standards equivalent to course competencies.
13. Granting credit for learning experiences conducted away from school, including National Guard high school career training.
14. The valedictorian and salutatorian selection process.
15. Planning and executing graduation ceremonies.

Policy No. 2410
High School Graduation Requirements - Continued

Counseling services shall be provided to students and parents upon entering high school and throughout their high school education experience. Information regarding expectations for high school completion and post-high school opportunities shall be provided. Students shall complete a High School and Beyond Plan when they enter high school and shall update their plan annually. Parent review and approval shall be required.

No student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but he/she may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension. Any student who willfully creates a disturbance at graduation will have their diploma held until appropriate disciplinary consequences are fulfilled.

A student shall be advised that he/she may receive a final transcript if requested prior to July 1 following graduation. However, a student's diploma or transcript may be withheld until the student pays for any school property that has been lost or willfully damaged. Upon payment for damages, or the equivalency through voluntary work, the diploma or transcript will be released. The student and his/her parents shall be notified regarding the nature of the violation or damage, how restitution may be made, and how an appeal may be instituted.

Graduation requirements in effect when a student first enrolls in high school shall be in effect until that student graduates unless such period is in excess of ten years.

Waiver: When the School District deems it to be in the best interest of an individual student, specific requirements may be waived provided they are not required by State statutes. (RCW 28A.230, WAC 180-51)

Legal Reference:	RCW 28A.230	Compulsory Course Work and Activities
	28A.635.030	Disturbing School, School Activities, or Meetings
	28A.635.060	Defacing or Injuring School Property --
	WAC 392-410	Courses of Study and Equivalencies
	180-51	High School Graduation Requirements
	392-348	Secondary Education
	392-415	Secondary Education -- Standardized High School Transcript
	392-169	Running Start
	392-121-124	Full-time Equivalent Enrollment for Work Based Learning

Adopted: September 8, 1993
Amended: May 18, 1994
Revised: May 8, 2002
Revised: January 14, 2009

Policy No. 2410
High School Graduation Requirements - Continued

Revised: September 9, 2009
Revised: July 2012
Revised: February 25, 2015
Revised: August 19, 2015
Revised: December 2016
Revised: June 19, 2019
Revised: September 2, 2020