

See Also ILBAA and IMBC

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Common Credit Requirements for all Diplomas

Course	Number of Required Credits for all diplomas
Art Education (art, music, drama)	.5
Information and Communication Technology	.5
English	4
Mathematics that encompasses algebra, mathematical modeling, statistics and probability, complex applications of measurement, applied geometry, graphical presentation and interpretation, statistics and data analysis	3 (Including Algebra 1)
Physical Sciences	1
Biological Sciences	1
US and NH History	1
World Studies, history, global studies, or geography	1
Economics	.5
US and NH Government/Civics	.5
Physical Education	1
Health	.5
Total Common Credit Requirements	14.5

Students shall engage in learning concerning competencies in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics for every year they are in high school until graduation, regardless if English/Language Arts or mathematics graduation competencies have been achieved. Such engagement may occur through integration of these graduation competencies in courses focused on content areas other than English or Mathematics as long as English or Mathematics competencies are clear expectations of the course. Those courses that support Mathematics and English competencies in other core content areas other than Mathematics and English will be identified in the Course of Studies. Such engagement shall support students to be college and career ready in Mathematics and English/Language Arts.

The three-tier diploma system includes:

Diploma with Distinction is awarded to students with 32 credits and eligibility for class rank (e.g. student should have completed a minimum of four consecutive semesters) and:

- An unweighted GPA of a 3.0 (B average) or better;
- Meet NH State Scholars* and or complete a Career and Technical Education Program;
- Maintained attendance of a minimum of 92%, at the final discretion of the building principal or designee;
- Maintained excellent citizenship including, but not limited to, no pattern of repeated Class I or Class II offenses, nor any egregious act of conduct, at the final discretion of the principal or designee;
- Scored proficient in mathematics and either reading or writing based on NECAP or other District-authorized standardized assessments.

The Director of Guidance shall refer all candidates to the high school principal for final determination of this diploma.

*NH State Scholar requirements, students must complete: all required credits to graduate in NH, in addition to completion of two of the three sciences (physics, anatomy and physiology, chemistry), two credits of a world language, and an additional designated social studies course (psychology, sociology, business law, crime and justice, or any AP social studies course).

As part of government and civics instruction, students shall take an assessment based on the topics covered in this course to satisfy RSA 189:11.

Academic Diploma with 27 credits is the standard diploma with 14.5 common credit requirements and an additional 13 elective credits.

Core Diploma with 20 credits is available only through an application process to the building principal. The Core Diploma meets minimum New Hampshire State requirements for high school graduation.

The Superintendent will report annually on the number of core diploma applications and the number of core diplomas granted.

Awarding of Credit

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 accordance with Policy ILBAA, Competency Assessments. Credit will be awarded only once for a specific course.

Alternative Credit Options

In some cases, credit may be earned through alternative methods outside of regular classroom based instruction offered by the district schools. Awarding of credits to be applied toward high school graduation will be determined by the high school principal, and will be granted according to the provisions of Policy IMBC, Alternative Credit Options.

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(14), How Credit Can be Earned

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.14(f), Awarding of Credit for Required Subjects and Open Electives

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(d), Mastery of Required Competencies

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(m), Credits Required for Graduation

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(s),

RSA 189:11, II Instruction in National and State History and Government.

Board Approved: 02/11/2008
R/Board Approved: 05/09/2011 [Replaces POPPS 2610]
R/Board Approved: 09/26/2016
R/Board Approved: 11/14/2016
R/Board Approved: 02/27/2017