Policy 6146.1: High School Graduation Requirements

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/13/2018 **| Last Revised Date:** 03/13/2024 **| Last Reviewed Date:** 03/13/2024

The Board of Education desires to prepare all students to obtain a high school diploma to enable them to take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and employment.

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

Course Requirements

Beginning with the class of 2022, to obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete 220 credits in the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

Three courses in social studies (30 credits): including United States history and World History (including culture, and geography of the world). Additionally, two semester long courses, one course in American government (civics) and one course in Economics. (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)
(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

Four courses in English (40 credits): English 1, English 2, English 3, English 4 or their equivalent. Newcomers English is accepted for one year (10 credits) of this requirement. (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

Three courses in mathematics (30 credits): At least one Mathematics course shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Integrated Mathematics I. The two additional years of Mathematics must exceed the content standards of Integrated Mathematics 1. (Education Code 51225.3)

Completion of Integrated Math 1 with a grade of 'C' or better prior to grade 9 shall satisfy the requirement and allow for placement in a Math 2 level course. High school credits will not be awarded. Two additional mathematics courses exceeding the content standards of Integrated Math 1 in grades 9-12 shall meet the requirement. (Education Code 51224.5)

(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)
(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)

Two courses in science, (20 credits): Including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)

Two sequential courses in a Language Other Than English (20 credits) The first-year of Language Other Than English may be met prior to high school with a grade of "C" or better in middle school. A student will have to take the same language in 7th and 8th grade, however, high school credits will not be awarded. Additionally, placement in and completion of a Level 2 course will satisfy this requirement. A student whose primary language is designated other than English is exempt from the core graduation requirement of two years of a Language Other than English course, as long as their formal instruction in the Language Other Than English took place after the 6th grade. A student may receive a waiver from the two-year Language Other Than English requirement due to a

specific learning disability, if it is clearly stated in his/her IEP or state standardized test results show a need for intensive academic intervention. (Please see AR 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements - World Language.)

(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)
(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)

One course in visual or performing arts (10 credits) (Education Code 51225.3)

One College Preparatory Elective (10 credits). One year of Career and Technical Education is recommended.
To be counted towards meeting graduation requirements, a CTE course shall be aligned to the CTE model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of Education.

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

Additional Graduation Requirements

Two courses (20 credits) in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)
(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)
(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

Beginning with the class of 2025, successful completion of a single two-semester course or two semesters (10 credits) of any a-g offerings in Ethnic Studies, including courses offered through dual or concurrent enrollment. Any Ethnic Studies course taken shall meet a UC/CSU a-g course requirement and shall also accrue credit for coursework in the subject that course is offered. Completion of the middle school Ethnic Studies elective course with a grade of 'C' or better prior to grade 9 shall satisfy the graduation requirement, though high school credits will not be awarded.

Education Code 51225.3
Education Code 51226.7

Up to an additional (70) credits of electives, to be chosen by the student and parents from the course offerings listed in the College and Career Readiness Guide

Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

Industry Concentration Certificate

An Industry Concentration Certificate is a path to a college and career future that integrates a-g courses, college courses, work based learning, and linked learning specialty areas. Completion of an Industry Concentration leads to meeting most of the a-g requirements, graduation from high school, and earns an Industry Concentration Certification in a key industry sector.

Students begin the Industry Concentration in grades 11 or 12. Students completing an Industry Concentration Certification will still meet the 220 credits graduation requirement; however, integrated with an industry sector concentration that may include CTE/VAPA courses. Students may participate in dual enrollment at a local college or university with approved agreements, mentorships, pre-internship, and pre-approved work-based learning. Santa Rosa City Schools, 11th and 12th grade students may be identified to participate in an Industry Concentration Specialist Certificate at their school.

Alternative Education

If an administrator so recommends, an alternate 180 credit course of study is available for

students at Ridgway Continuation High School, or the Individualized Education Program Team can determine that an alternate course of study may be available.

Prior to the beginning of grade 10, the individualized education program (IEP) team for each student with disabilities shall determine whether the student is eligible for exemption from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the Board in addition to the statewide course requirements for high school graduation, and if so, shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the exemption. A student with disabilities shall be eligiblefor the exemption, if the student's IEP provides for both of the following requirements: (Education Code
51225.31)

1. That the student take the alternate assessment aligned to alternate achievement standards in grade 11 as described in Education Code 60640
2. That the student completes state standards aligned coursework to meet the statewide coursework specified in Education Code 51225.3

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)
(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)

Exemptions and Waivers

Definition:
A waiver is a process that intentionally excuses a student from specific graduation requirements based on certain factors. By waiving Math and/or LOTE course(s), students will remain on track toward graduating with a Santa Rosa City Schools diploma; however by utilizing a waiver, students will not be eligible to apply directly to a CSU or UC college because the “a-g” requirements have not been fulfilled. A waiver is initiated by specific paperwork that must be completed by a student, the student’s guardian, and school personnel.

Math Waiver Consideration:

Students shall be encouraged to complete UC eligibility requirements in mathematics, but may omit the third year of math upon written, knowledgeable application by a student’s parent/ guardian.

Please note: waivers for math courses DO NOT exempt the student from the two-year California Department of Education (CDE) mathematics requirement (20 credits) which includes the state requirement of students having to pass Math 1P (the equivalent of Algebra 1P). Students still must earn 20 math credits to graduate from SRCS.

This waiver only exempts a student from one year of the three years of the SRCS math requirement for graduation.

Language Other than English (LOTE) Consideration:

Please note: waivers for LOTE DO NOT exempt the student from the one-year California Department of Education (CDE) LOTE requirement (10 credits). Students still must earn 10 credits to graduate.

This waiver only exempts a student from one year of the two years of the same language of LOTE that is required for graduation.

Determine if the following criteria apply:

❏ A current junior (Class of 2025) or senior (Class of 2024) who cannot meet the 2 year LOTE requirement
❏ Did not pass 2nd year of a LOTE (2 semesters)

A foster youth, homeless students, or former juvenile court school students who transfer into the district any time after completing their second year of high school shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code 51225.3 but shall be exempt from any additional district- adopted graduation requirements, unless the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified of the availability of the exemption and

whether he/she qualifies for it. (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)
(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)
(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)
(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by waiving specific course requirements for graduation if the student has satisfactorily completed similar coursework in another district. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)

Retroactive Diplomas

Until July 31, 2018, any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination shall be granted a high school diploma. (Education Code 60851.6)

The district may retroactively grant a high school diploma to a former student who was interned by order of the federal government during World War II or who is an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, provided that he/she was enrolled in a district school immediately preceding the internment or military service and he/she did not receive a diploma because his/her education was interrupted due to the internment or military service. A deceased former student who satisfies these conditions may be granted a retroactive diploma to be received by his/her next of kin. (Education Code 51430)

In addition, the district may grant a diploma to a veteran who entered the military service of the United States while he/she was a district student in grade 12 and who had completed the first half of the work required for grade 12. (Education Code 51440)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

47612 Enrollment in charter school 48200 Compulsory attendance

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48645.5 Acceptance of coursework

48980 Required notification at beginning of term

49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life

51224.5 Algebra instruction

51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements

51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course

51225.3 High school graduation

51225.35 Mathematics course requirements; computer science

51225.36 Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51225.6 Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation

51228 Graduation requirements

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents

51410-51412 Diplomas

51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates

51430 Retroactive high school diplomas

51440 Retroactive high school diplomas

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

51745 Independent study restrictions

56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education

60851.5 Suspension of high school exit examination

60851.6 Retroactive diploma; completion of all graduation requirements except high school exit examination

66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

67386 Student safety; affirmative consent standard

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedure

COURT DECISIONS

O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

Management Resources:
WEB SITES CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, High School: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs
University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements

Policy SANTA ROSA CITY SCHOOLS
adopted: December 20, 2023, Santa Rosa, California
revised: June 14, 2023
revised: May 24, 2023
revised: October 28, 2020
revised: March 25, 2020
revised: June 13, 2018
revised: April 25, 2018
revised: May 24, 2017
revised: February 26, 2014
revised: January 16, 2013
revised: May 23, 2012
revised: November, 9, 2011

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 1600-1651	Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation
5 CCR 4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
Ed Code 60900.2	Students with Disabilities Graduation Reporting
Ed. Code 220	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 47612	Average daily attendance in charter school
Ed. Code 48200	Compulsory attendance
Ed. Code 48204.4	Parents/guardians departing California against their will
Ed. Code 48412	Certificate of proficiency
Ed. Code 48430	Continuation education schools and classes
Ed. Code 48645.5	Former juvenile court school students; enrollment
Ed. Code 48980	Parent/Guardian notifications
Ed. Code 49701	Provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children
Ed. Code 51224	Skills and knowledge required for adult life
Ed. Code 51224.5	Algebra in course of study for grades 7-12
Ed. Code 51225.1	Exemption from district graduation requirements
Ed. Code 51225.2	Course credits
Ed. Code 51225.3	High school graduation requirements
Ed. Code 51225.31	Graduation exemption for students with disabilities
Ed. Code 51225.35	Mathematics course requirements; computer science
Ed. Code 51225.36	Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation
Ed. Code 51225.5	Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange and terminally ill students
Ed. Code 51225.6	Instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation; districts that require health education for graduation
Ed. Code 51225.9	Courses of study, grades 7 to 12; career technical education
Ed. Code 51226.7	Model curriculum in ethnic studies
Ed. Code 51228	Course of study; offerings and timely opportunity
Ed. Code 51230	Credit for community emergency response training
Ed. Code 51240-51246	Exemptions from requirements
Ed. Code 51250-51251	Assistance to military dependents
Ed. Code 51410-51413	Diplomas
Ed. Code 51420-51427	High school equivalency certificates
Ed. Code 51430	Retroactive high school diplomas
Ed. Code 51440	Credit and granting of diploma to veterans and members of the military service
Ed. Code 51450-51455	Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
Ed. Code 51744-51749.6	Independent study
Ed. Code 56390-56392	Recognition for educational achievement; special education
Ed. Code 60640	California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

State	Description
Ed. Code 66204	Certification of high school courses as meeting university admission criteria
Ed. Code 67386	Student safety; affirmative consent standard

Federal	Description
20 USC 7011	Definition of newcomer student
34 CFR 300.1-300.818	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Management Resources	Description
Court Decision	O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela) (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	California Department of Education, High School
Website	University of California, List of Approved A-G Courses
Website	CSBA

Cross References	Description
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E PDF(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
4112.2	Certification
4112.2	Certification
5113.2	Work Permits
5113.2	Work Permits
5126	Awards For Achievement
5126	Awards For Achievement
5127	Graduation Ceremonies And Activities
5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E PDF(1)	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E PDF(2)	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5147	Dropout Prevention
6000	Concepts And Roles
6011	Academic Standards
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation
6141	Curriculum Development And Evaluation
6142.1	Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
6142.1	Sexual Health And HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction
6142.4	Service Learning/Community Service Classes
6142.7	Physical Education And Activity
6142.7	Physical Education And Activity
6142.91	Reading/Language Arts Instruction

Cross References	Description
6142.92	Mathematics Instruction
6142.94	History-Social Science Instruction
6143	Courses Of Study
6143	Courses Of Study
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6145.6	International Exchange
6145.6	International Exchange
6146.11	Alternative Credits Toward Graduation
6146.11	Alternative Credits Toward Graduation
6146.2	Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
6146.2	Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
6146.2-E PDF(1)	Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
6146.2-E PDF(2)	Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency
6146.3	Reciprocity Of Academic Credit
6146.3	Reciprocity Of Academic Credit
6146.4	Differential Graduation And Competency Standards For Students With Disabilities
6146.4	Differential Graduation And Competency Standards For Students With Disabilities
6152.1	Placement In Mathematics Courses
6155	Challenging Courses By Examination
6155	Challenging Courses By Examination
6158	Independent Study
6158	Independent Study
6159	Individualized Education Program
6159	Individualized Education Program
6159.2	Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School And Agency Services For Special Education
6159.2	Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School And Agency Services For Special Education
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1-E PDF(1)	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials - Please See District Material In District Office
6162.5	Student Assessment
6172.1	Concurrent Enrollment In College Classes
6173	Education For Homeless Children
6173	Education For Homeless Children
6173-E PDF(1)	Education For Homeless Children
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth

Cross References	Description
6173.2	Education Of Children Of Military Families
6173.2	Education Of Children Of Military Families
6173.3	Education For Juvenile Court School Students
6175	Migrant Education Program
6175	Migrant Education Program
6176	Weekend/Saturday Classes
6177	Summer Learning Programs
6178	Career Technical Education
6178	Career Technical Education
6178.1	Work-Based Learning
6178.1	Work-Based Learning
6178.2	Regional Occupational Center/Program
6179	Supplemental Instruction
6184	Continuation Education
6184	Continuation Education
9000	Role Of The Board