

Procedure 2700P-Procedure(1): High School Graduation Requirements Procedures

Status: DRAFT

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SECTION 1. PUBLICATION OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Prior to registering for high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

SECTION 2. CREDITS

2.1 The Caldwell School District has established that students attending a traditional high school must earn a minimum of forty-eight (48) semester credits in order to meet the graduation requirements. Students attending an alternative high school must earn the Idaho state minimum of forty-six (46) semester credits to be eligible for graduation. Students shall be expected to earn a total of 46 semester credits (Note: A minimum of forty-eight (48) semester credits is required) in order to complete graduation requirements.

2.2 The core of instruction is thirty-one (31) semester credits:

Secondary Language Arts and Communication		9 credits
English (language study, composition, literature)	8 credits	
Speech or Debate	1 credit	
Mathematics		6 credits
Algebra I (or meets Algebra I standards)	2 credits	
Geometry (or meets Geometry standards)	2 credits	
Secondary Mathematics of the student's choice	2 credits	
<i>Secondary mathematics includes Integrated Mathematics, Applied Credit Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in mathematical problem-solving and quantitative reasoning, including mathematics taken through career technical education programs.</i>		
Dual credit engineering and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades nine (9) through twelve (12), including AP Computer Science and dual credit computer Science courses, may be counted as a mathematics credit if the student has completed Algebra II (or equivalent integrated mathematics) standards.		
<i>*Students who choose to take Computer Science and Dual Credit Engineering may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit for the same course.</i>		
Secondary Science		6 credits
Two (2) credits shall be laboratory sciences	2 credits	
Instruction in the following: earth and space sciences, physical science, life sciences, computer science, biology, chemistry, environment, or approved applied sciences.	2 credits	
Social Studies		7 credits
Government	2 credits	

Government		
US History	2 credits	
Economics	1 credit	
<i>Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology and world history may not count towards this requirement.</i>		
Arts and Humanities		2 credits
May include visual arts, music, theater, dance, or world language aligned to Idaho content standards for those subjects. Other courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is aligned to the Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.		
Health/Wellness		1 credit
Course must be aligned to Idaho Content Standards and a student should receive a minimum of one (1) class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR to include the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course. Additionally, students participating in one (1) season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association or club sport recognized by the local school district, or eighteen (18) weeks of a sport recognized by the local school district may choose to substitute participation up to one (1) credit of physical education.		

SECTION 3. MIDDLE SCHOOL CREDIT

3.1 Students must meet 8th grade math standards before being permitted to 9th grade.

A student will have met the high school content and credit requirement for any required high school course if: (1) The student completes such course with a grade C or higher before entering 9th grade; (2) course meets the same content standards that are required for high school and (3) course is taught by a properly certified teacher. Parents of middle school students taking a course for high school credit must be notified that the course is available for high school credit and must be given the option as to whether or not the course is transcribed. Students/families paying for courses with Advanced Opportunities funds are consenting to the course being transcribed as high school credit.

SECTION 4. SENIOR PROJECT

4.1 A student shall complete a senior project that includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of grade 12. Senior projects may be multi-year projects, individual projects, or approved pre-internship or school to work internship programs at the discretion of the District. The project must include elements of research, development of a thesis using experiential learning or integrated project-based learning experiences, and a presentation of the outcome. Additional requirements for the senior project are at the discretion of the District.

Completion of a post-secondary certificate or degree at the time of high school graduation or an approved pre-internship or internship program may be used to satisfy this requirement.

SECTION 5. IDAHO STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT TESTS (ISAT)

5.1 In addition to obtaining the necessary credits as outlined above, a student will take the Idaho Student Achievement Test (ISAT) as defined by State Board of Education rules.

SECTION 6. CIVICS TEST

6.1 All secondary students must successfully pass the civics test or alternate path. "Civics test" as used herein means the one hundred (100) questions used by officers of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services as a basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for naturalization.

6.2 The District will determine the method and manner in which to administer the civics test. A student may take the civics test, in whole or in part, and may repeat the test as often as necessary to pass the test. The District will document on the

student's transcript that the student has passed the civics test.

SECTION 7. WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT

7.1 Graduation requirements generally will not be waived under any circumstances. However, in rare and unique hardship circumstances, the principal may recommend, and the Superintendent may approve, minor deviation from the graduation requirements.

SECTION 8. ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

8.1 Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, college and university courses, correspondence courses, and online/virtual courses.

8.2 Credit for work experience may be offered when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

8.3 All credits earned at a high school in the District shall be accepted as transfer credits. Transfer credits shall be recorded on the transcript. All grades earned, including failures and retakes, shall be recorded as such and utilized in the calculation of Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank. Credit shall be awarded only once, regardless of repetition of the course, unless indicated in the course handbook.

SECTION 9. CLASS RANK (GPA)

9.1 Class rank is compiled from semester grades. Courses not eligible for GPA are designated with an asterisk on the report card.

SECTION 10. EARLY GRADUATION

10.1 Any high school student who completes the number of credits and exiting standards required by both the state and the school district prior to completing eight (8) semesters of high school work may petition the superintendent and Board of Trustees to graduate early.

A student may, at the student's option and upon notification to the student's school, graduate early if the student:

10.1.1 Is at least 16 years of age;

10.1.2 Maintains a cumulative 2.7 grade point average.

10.1.3 Obtains permission from a parent/guardian, if under the age of 18.

10.1.4 Files the following with school:

10.1.4.a. An essay explaining why the student wishes to graduate early;

10.1.4.b. Completes a transcript and/or credit check with a high school counselor;

10.1.4.c. Receives a letter of recommendation from the high school principal.

10.1.5 Completes the following:

10.1.5.a. The required civics test;

10.1.5.b. The economics course, government course, and senior project, which are required to graduate.

10.2 The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation or a flexible schedule, and may create incentives for participation in an early graduation program. Students who opt for a flexible schedule may apply for Advanced Opportunities funding. Existing programs providing incentives to complete coursework early are described in Policy 2435 Advanced Opportunities.

Cross References

Description

2435	Advanced Opportunities - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/h8DMqCqHNp9plusC1Vw3Mb1UQ==
2700	High School Graduation Requirements - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/yXyaHcti8kOiXxf1XUgvykQ==
2710	High School Graduation Requirements - Specialty Diplomas - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/6uzkuqozCCOZV6H9x1pslshrQ==
2715	Idaho Seal of Biliteracy - https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/xznc4tjnWyQX8SqEplusrfhDw==