



INSTRUCTION

High School Graduation Requirements

Requirements

Graduation requirements, in addition to twenty-three credits for freshman entering before June 30, 2006 or twenty-four credits for freshman entering after June 30, 2006 include the development of a high school and beyond plan, earning a certificate of academic achievement and the completion of a culminating project. The culminating project is a multi-year project starting at the beginning of the student's high school career and culminating during the senior year. This project shall demonstrate the student's ability to think analytically, logically and creatively and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems. The project will also have a connection to the world of work in that it will demonstrate that the student understands the importance of work and how performance, effort and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.

In addition to the minimum credit requirements, to earn a diploma each student must complete:

1. A High School and Beyond Plan: Within the first year of high school enrollment, each student shall develop a plan for satisfying the state and district's high school graduation requirements and for their first year after high school completion. The plan should be developed in collaboration with the student, parent and district staff. The plan should include how the student will satisfy the district's academic credit requirements, preparation for successfully completing the Washington Assessment of Student Learning, a description of the student's culminating project and the student's goals for the year following graduation. Each student plan should be reviewed annually at the beginning of the school year to assess student progress, to adjust the plan, and to advise the student on steps necessary for successful completion of the plan;
2. A Culminating Project: During the course of their high school career each student shall complete a culminating project. The project shall demonstrate the student's ability to think analytically, logically and creatively and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems. The project will also have a connection to the world of work in that it will demonstrate that the student understands the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities;
3. Pass the reading and writing portions of the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL); and
4. Complete additional math credits as outlined below and continue to take the mathematics WASL once each year. (If the student failed to successfully pass the math portion of the WASL or an appropriate alternative.)

- a. Class of 2008:
Students must earn a mathematics credit or a career and technical education equivalent mathematics credit after the 11th grade. Credits earned must meet 9/10 grade level expectations.
- b. Class of 2009-2012
Students must earn two mathematics credits or career and technical education equivalent math credits after 10th grade. Credits earned must meet 9/10 grade level expectations.

A student will receive a certificate of academic achievement only if they earn the appropriate number of credits required by the district, complete a culminating project, complete the high school and beyond plan; and meet the reading, writing and math standards on the high school WASL or an appropriate alternative assessment.

Students qualifying for special education services will earn a certificate of individual achievement as determined by their individual education plan.

Publication of Graduation Requirements

Prior to registering in high school, and each year thereafter each student and his/her parents or guardians will be provided a student handbook with a copy of the current graduation requirements.

Waiver of Graduation Requirements

The following procedure shall be followed in graduation waiver requests:

- A. The principal is responsible for evaluating educational experiences of individual students and recommending graduation to the superintendent when requirements have been met.

An individual student may be granted an exemption from any requirement in this policy if such requirement impedes the progress toward graduation provided there is a direct relationship between the failure to meet the requirement and the student's ability. When a 12th grade student transfers from another high school, the student may be permitted to graduate with lesser number of credits provided that minimum state-course and credit requirements are satisfied and the student successfully passes a full schedule of classes during his/her 12th year of school.

- B. Waiver of graduation requirements is determined by the principal. The procedure for processing requests for waiver shall be as follows:
 - 1. Request shall be initiated by the parent or the eligible student.
 - 2. The principal shall investigate the request for waiver of graduation requirements.
 - 3. The principal shall make a determination in writing based upon appropriate data and upon conclusions of the investigation.
 - 4. The principal shall develop appropriate recordkeeping procedures for storage of all pertinent data relating to each waiver request.

5. The parent or eligible student shall be notified that an appeal to the decision on waiver requests may be made in writing to the superintendent no later than 30 days prior to the anticipated graduation date.
6. All state statutory requirements must be satisfied except that Washington history and government, pursuant to WAC 180-51-075, and physical education, pursuant to RCW 28A.230.050, may be waived. In the latter instance, an individual student may be excused from physical education upon written request of a parent or guardian on account of physical disability, employment or religious belief or because of participation in directed athletics or military science and tactics. This shall not alter the credit requirements established by the board.

Alternative Credit

- A. The Enumclaw School District will recognize credit granted by a regional or state accredited institution.
- B. Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences primarily conducted away from the facilities owned, operated or supervised by a district. Planned learning experiences such as, but not limited to, Home-Based Instruction and correspondence courses may be accepted for credit upon compliance with procedures established by the school district.

A proposal for approval of out-of-school learning activities shall be submitted to the high school principal for consideration prior to the experience, shall be at no additional cost to the district. Procedures and required forms shall be available at the high school.

Graduation Ceremonies

Full-time students fulfilling graduation requirements by the end of the last term of their senior year, may participate in graduation ceremonies. Students who have qualified for early graduation will be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony. Each student shall be awarded a diploma after satisfactorily completing local and state requirements. Upon request each graduating student shall receive a final transcript. Each student shall be notified of this opportunity at least one month prior to the close of the school term.

Graduation ceremonies will be conducted in the following manner:

- A. Each participating student must participate in the graduation ceremony rehearsal. Each student who participates will purchase or rent the proper cap and gown as designated by the school administration and the class advisor and officers.
- B. Caps and gowns will be worn in the proper manner, as designated by the school administration and class advisor.
- C. Students who participate will be expected to use good taste in their choice of accessories for their attire.

- D. Each student who participates will be expected to cooperate with the class advisor and to participate in all parts of the graduation ceremonies.
- E. Failure to comply with the above requirements will automatically forfeit a student's privilege of participation in the graduation ceremonies.