

Document Status: Draft Update

Section 6 - INSTRUCTION

6:300 Graduation Requirements

The Board determines high school graduation requirements that will provide each student ample opportunity to achieve the goals for which the School District exists and that meet the minimum graduation requirements contained in State law. Unless otherwise exempted, each student must successfully accomplish the following in order to graduate from high school:

- . Complete all District course requirements as follows:
 - a. Four credits of English;
 - b. Three credits of mathematics, which must include a minimum of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra;
 - c. Two credits of science, of which at least one credit must be in Biology;
 - d. Two and one-half credits of Social Science; one credit in Pre-AP World History or AP Human Geography, one credit in U.S. History, and .5 credit in American government;
 - e. One credit chosen from music, art, foreign language or vocational education. Proficiency in American Sign Language shall be considered an alternative to a foreign language.
 - f. One-half credit in health;
 - g. Enrollment in physical education or ROTC each semester enrolled in school except the semester of health and the semester of driver education; unless exempt under other Board policies;
 - h. One-half credit in consumer education;
 - i. 40 hours of community service experience;
 - j. Five and one-half credits in elective areas.
- . Complete all courses as provided in the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-~~22605~~. [PRESSPlus1](#)
- . Complete all minimum requirements for graduation as specified in State law.
- . Pass an examination on patriotism, ~~and~~ principles of representative government, ~~and~~ proper use ~~and~~ display of the ~~American~~ flag ~~methods of voting, and the~~ ~~Pledge of Allegiance~~. [PRESSPlus2](#)
- . Participating in State assessments that are required for graduation by State law.
- . Filing one of the following: (1) a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Dept. of Education, (2) an application for State financial aid, or (3) an Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) waiver form indicating that the student understands what these aid opportunities are and has chosen not to file

an application. If the student is not at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student's parent/guardian must file one of these documents on the student's behalf.

A student is exempt from this requirement if: (1) the student is unable to file a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver due to extenuating circumstances, (2) the Building Principal attests the District made a good faith effort to assist the student or the student's parent/guardian with filing a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver form, and (3) the student has met all other graduation requirements.

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for:

- . Maintaining a description of all course offerings that comply with the above graduation requirements.
- . Notifying students and their parents/guardians of graduation requirements.
- . Developing the criteria for determining when a student accomplishes number 4 above.
- . Complying with State law requirements for students who transfer during their senior year because their parent(s)/guardian(s) are on active military duty, this includes making reasonable adjustments to ensure graduation if possible, or efforts to ensure that the original (transferor) school district issues the student a diploma.
- . Taking all other actions needed or necessary to implement this policy.

For a student placed in Special Education, the Individual Education Plan (IEP) will be used to determine graduation requirements per Board policy 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities).

The Building Principal is responsible for notifying students and their parents/guardians of the District's graduation requirements.

Certificate of Completion

A student with a disability who has an individualized education program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's four years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed four years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony of his or her high school graduation class. The Superintendent or designee shall provide timely written notice of this requirement to children with disabilities and their parents/guardians.

Early Graduation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures for students to graduate early, provided they meet all graduation requirements.

Service Member Diploma

The District will award a diploma to a service member who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the U.S. Armed Forces or an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict, provided that he or she (1) resided within an area currently within the District at the time he or she left high school, (2) left high school before graduating in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and (3) has not received a high school diploma.

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/22-27, 5/22-87, 5/27-~~5103~~, 5/27-~~60522~~, and 5/27-~~61522-10~~.

[105 ILCS 70/](#), Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act.

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440](#).

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:300-E (Application for a Diploma for Veterans of WW II or the Korean Conflict), 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students), 6:315 (High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers to and from Non-District Schools)

ADOPTED: January 18, 2011

REVISED: August 28, 2014; December 3, 2014; February 24, 2015; June 21, 2016; February 20, 2018; February 18, 2020; January 19, 2021; April 20, 2021; February 15, 2022; June 21, 2022

PRESSPlus Comments

[PRESSPlus 1](#). Renumbered in response to P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**

[PRESSPlus 2](#). Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-510, added by P.A. 104-391, requiring students to pass an exam on patriotism, principles of representative government, and proper use and display of the American flag, formerly addressed at 105 ILCS 5/27-3, repealed by P.A. 104-391. **Issue 120, October 2025**