

All students graduating from Soda Springs School District No.150 will meet all state and district graduation requirements.

## **STATE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION**

The Idaho State Board of Education has established that all students graduating from an Idaho public high school must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Local Achievement Standards. A student must meet locally established subject area achievement standards as demonstrated through various measures of accountability including examinations or other measures. The local standards must meet or exceed the standards set by the state.
2. Course Credit and Core Instruction. A student must successfully complete a minimum of forty-six (46) credits and must include twenty-nine (29) credits in core subjects as set forth in IDAPA 08.02.03.105. One (1) credit equals sixty (60) hours of instruction unless the district has been granted a waiver by the Idaho State Department of Education.
  - a. Secondary Language Arts and Communication—nine (9) credits required.
    - 1) Eight (8) credits of language arts consisting of language study, composition, and literature aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for the appropriate grade level.
    - 2) One (1) credit of instruction in communications consisting of oral communication and technological applications that includes a course in speech, a course in debate, or a sequence of instructional activities that meet the Idaho Speech Content Standards requirements.
  - b. Mathematics—six (6) credits required.
    - 1) Two (2) credits of Algebra I or courses that meet the Idaho Algebra I Content Standards.
    - 2) Two (2) credits of Geometry or courses that meet the Idaho Geometry Content Standards.
    - 3) Two (2) credits of mathematics of the student's choice.
    - 4) Two (2) credits of the required six (6) credits of mathematics must be taken in the last year of high school in which the student intends to graduate. The last year of high school includes the summer preceding the fall start of classes. Students who return to school during the summer or

the following fall for the next year for less than a full schedule of courses due to failing to pass a course other than math are not required to retake a math course as long as they have earned six (6) credits of high school level mathematics.

- 5) Students who have completed six (6) credits of math prior to the fall of their last year of high school, including at least two (2) semesters of an Advanced Placement (AP) or dual credit calculus or higher level course, are exempt from taking math during their last year of high school.

c. Science—six (6) credits required.

- 1) Secondary sciences include instruction in biology; physical science or chemistry; and earth, space, environment, or approved applied science.
- 2) Four (4) credits must be laboratory based.

d. Social Studies—five (5) credits required.

- 1) Two (2) credits in government.
- 2) Two (2) credits in U.S. history.
- 3) One (1) credit in economics.
- 4) Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but will not be counted as a social studies requirement.

e. Humanities—two (2) credits required.

- 1) Humanities courses include instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for those subjects.
- 2) Courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is approved by the Idaho Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.

f. Health/Wellness—one (1) credit required.

- 1) The course must be aligned to the Idaho Health Content Standards.

3. Mastery. A student may achieve credits by demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards as defined and approved by the district. The board will appoint a committee to

develop a process whereby students may be awarded credit upon having demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards.

4. Proficiency Assessment. A student must achieve a proficient or advanced score on the 10<sup>th</sup> grade Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) in math, reading, and language usage. A student who does not attain at least a proficient score prior to graduation may appeal to the district and will be given an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency of the content standards through an alternate plan established by the district. Notice of the alternate plan will be provided to any student who has not achieved a proficient or advanced score on the ISAT by the fall semester of the student's 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. All alternate plans used to demonstrate proficiency, or modifications to such plans, will be reviewed by the Idaho State Board of Education.
  - a. Before entering an alternate measure, the student must be:
    - 1) Enrolled in a special education program and have an Individual Education Plan (IEP);
    - 2) Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three (3) academic years or less; or
    - 3) Enrolled in the fall semester of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year.
  - b. The alternate plan must:
    - 1) Contain multiple measures of student achievement;
    - 2) Be aligned to 10<sup>th</sup> grade content standards at a minimum;
    - 3) Be aligned to the state content standards for the subject matter in question;
    - 4) Be valid and reliable; and
    - 5) Ninety percent (90%) of the alternate plan criteria must be based on academic proficiency and performance.
  - c. A student is not required to achieve a proficient or advanced score on the ISAT if:
    - 1) The student received a proficient or advanced score on an exit exam from another state that requires a standards-based exam for graduation. Such state exit exams must be approved by the Idaho State Board of Education, measure skills at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade level or above, and be in comparable subject areas to the ISAT;
    - 2) The student completes an alternate plan as outlined above;
    - 3) The student has an IEP that outlines alternate requirements for graduation or adaptations are recommended on the test; or

- 4) The student is considered an LEP student through a score determined on a language proficiency test and has been in an LEP program for three (3) academic years or less.
5. College Entrance Examination. A student must take one (1) of the following college entrance examinations before the end of the student's 11<sup>th</sup> grade year: COMPASS, ACT or SAT. Scores must be included in the Learning Plan.
  - a. A student may elect an exemption in their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year from the college entrance exam requirement if the student is:
    - 1) Enrolled in a special education program and has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) that specifies accommodations are not allowed for a reportable score on the approved tests; or
    - 2) Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three (3) academic years or less.
6. Senior Project. A student must complete a senior project that includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of the student's 12<sup>th</sup> grade year.
7. Middle School Courses. If a student completes any required high school courses with a grade of C or higher before entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade, if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school, if the course is taught by a properly certified teacher who meets the federal definition of being highly qualified for the course being taught, and if the school providing the course is accredited as recognized by the Idaho State Board of Education then the student will have met the high school content and credit area requirement for such course. The student will be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and the grade and the number of credit hours assigned to the course will be transferred to the student's high school transcript.

## DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

The number of credits required for graduation from Soda Springs High School varies, based on the year of graduation. The following chart outlines the number of credits required in each subject area for each graduation class. Graduation requirements are stated in terms of "credits earned." One credit is awarded for each semester/trimester of successfully completed work.

<b>Class of...</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
English	8	8	8	8
Speech	1	1	1	1
*Mathematics	6	6	6	6
*Science	6	6	6	6
American Government	2	2	2	2
U.S. History	2	2	2	2
Economics	1	1	1	1
Humanities	3	2	2	2
Health	1	1	1	1
Physical Education	2	2	2	2
Senior Project	1	1	1	1
<u>Electives</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>
Total	52	50	49	48

\*Equivalent to three years (minimum 2 semesters/trimesters per year) of math and science.

Students who are taking correspondence courses in order to complete graduation requirements must have their final grades and verification of completion back and registered with the high school at **least one week prior to graduation**.

**No student can participate in the graduation exercises unless all graduation requirements are fulfilled.**

No provisions exist for any school in this district to withhold the transfer of a student's records until outstanding fines or fees are paid.

Under special circumstances, a certificate of completion may be granted, with the authorizations of the Board of Trustees of District.

### ***ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS***

As a further condition of graduation and as a condition of issuance of a diploma or certificate or as a condition for issuance of a transcript, all indebtedness incurred by a person when he or she was a student must be paid. Furthermore, all books or other instructional material, uniforms, athletic equipment, advances on loans, or other personal property of the school district borrowed by the person when he or she was a student of the district must be returned. The payment of fees may be excused upon an adequate showing of financial need or other exigency.

### **CREDIT CALCULATION**

Credits toward graduation requirements cannot be counted more than once for meeting the minimum requirements.



**LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Idaho Code Sections

33-119

33-603

33-1601, *et seq.*

18-4511

IDAPA Proposed Rule 08.02.03.105 (June 19-20, 2013)

**ADOPTED: August 28, 2002**

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**AMENDED: November 17, 2010**

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