



### Background

The 2025-2026 BHSC Handbook was approved at the June 16, 2025 board meeting. The proposed handbook changes address removing obstacles for early graduates. This change removes a 7 semester seat time requirement, GPA, and other prerequisites. A committee made of Junior High, High School principals, Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Communications reviewed high performing 5A and larger classifications.



Blue ink = original  
Red ink = addendum

### Early Graduation Policy

The early graduation policy is designed to provide academically advanced and motivated high school students with the opportunity to complete their graduation requirements ahead of schedule, allowing them to pursue higher education, vocational training, or employment earlier than the traditional four-year high school timeline.

#### Eligibility Criteria:

- Students must maintain a minimum Cumulative GPA of 3.0 throughout their high school years.
- Accumulate a minimum of 23 credits, including required credits in core subjects and electives, completed in no less than 7 semesters.
- Meeting expectations, of on level or ready, in all of the required ATLAS state assessments,

#### Application Process:

- Students must submit a formal letter expressing their desire to graduate early, the benefits that will be gained through early graduation and the students plans once they are able to graduate early.
- A letter of recommendation from a parent or guardian affirming their support for their student to complete their requirements early.
- Applicants and parents or guardians must participate in a meeting with Counselors and Administration to discuss their students academic and career goals. At that point an Early Graduation Request Form will be completed with needed signatures.
- All of these steps must be completed by May 1 of their Junior year
- A committee consisting of school administrators, counselors, and teachers will review each application and approve or deny the application and can consider other extenuating circumstances.

#### Graduation Timeline:

- Upon approval, students will work with school counselors to develop an individualized acceleration plan outlining the remaining coursework and graduation timeline.
- Regular check-ins with the student's counselor to monitor progress and address any challenges that may arise.

#### Additional Considerations:



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- Early graduates are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities and community service throughout their high school experience.
- The school will provide guidance and resources to assist early graduates in transitioning to higher education, vocational training, or the workforce.

### **Early Graduation Policy**

The early graduation policy is designed to provide motivated students with the opportunity to complete their graduation requirements ahead of schedule, allowing them to pursue higher education, vocational training, or employment earlier than the traditional four-year timeline. Students must meet all graduation requirements for early graduation.

Students should submit a formal letter of intent to graduate early to the principal including the parent's consent of the request. The student and a parent/guardian will then meet with a counselor to develop an acceleration plan for the remaining coursework needed to meet graduation requirements.

### **SENIOR CLASS RANK**

At the end of the eighth semester, seniors will be ranked according to grade point average figured on a 4.0 scale. Students who have earned credit in designated honors courses will receive added quality points added to their 4.0 GPA according to the following scale: 1 semester of "A" = .04, 1 semester of "B" = .03, 1 semester of "C" = .02, and 1 semester of "D" = .01 quality points.

### **Graduating Exercises:**

In order to participate in the graduation exercise, a student must have met all curriculum requirements and must have met the following conditions:

- The student must have been in attendance at Batesville High School during his/her final semester before graduation.
- The student must have earned at least two units of credit in the spring semester before graduation.

Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the principal in cases of special students and fifth year seniors.

### **PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS**

Diplomas will be presented by the President of the School Board. District administration and BHSC staff may be allowed to present diplomas to their children.