

All students graduating from Soda Springs School District No. 150 will meet all state and district graduation requirements. High schools in this district will offer a wide variety of courses to satisfy state and local graduation requirements, including instructional offerings in physical education and Professional-Technical Education (PTE). Additionally, each student's parent-approved learning plan will be reviewed and updated annually with the student (*see Policy No. 608, Middle/Junior High School Required Instruction*).

STATE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

The Idaho State Board of Education (SBOE) 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 (SDE).
 - 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.
 - 6) AP computer science, dual credit computer science, and dual credit engineering courses may also be counted as a mathematics credit if the student has completed Algebra II standards. Such courses may not concurrently count as both a math and science credit.
- 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.
 - 3) Up to two (2) credits in AP computer science, dual credit computer science, and dual credit engineering may be used as science credits. Such courses may not concurrently count as both a math and science credit.
- 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.
 - 2) Each student must receive a minimum of one (1) class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines for CPR including the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course.
- g. Physical Education—no credit requirement.
- 1) Students who participate for one (1) season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) or club sport recognized by the district or eighteen (18) weeks of a sport recognized by the district may choose to substitute participation up to one (1) credit of physical education. Students must show mastery of the content standards for physical education in a format provided by the district.
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 demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards.
4. Proficiency Assessment. A student must achieve a proficient or advanced score on the 10th grade Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) in math, reading, and language usage in order to graduate. Students who receive a proficient or advanced score on the 10th grade ISAT while in 9th grade may bank the score for purposes of meeting the graduation requirement.

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 11th grade year. All alternate plans used to demonstrate proficiency, or modifications to such plans, will be reviewed by the SBOE.

- 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 12th grade year.
- b. The alternate plan must:
 - 1) Contain multiple measures of student achievement;
 - 2) Be aligned to 10th 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 10th 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 that 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.
- d. For the Class of 2016, students who have not received a proficient or advanced score on the ISAT in 9th grade will be required to complete an alternative plan for graduation as designed by the district including the elements prescribed above and may enter the alternate path prior to the fall of their senior year.
- e. Students who graduate in 2017 are required to complete the ISAT in 11th grade in mathematics and English language usage.

- f. Students who graduate, beginning in 2017, are required to complete an End of Course Assessment (EOC) provided by the state in either biology or chemistry after completion of the course.
5. College Entrance Examination. A student must take one (1) of the following college entrance or placement examinations before the end of the student's 11th grade year: SAT, ACT, or Compass.
- a. A student who misses the statewide administration of the college exam during the student's 11th grade year for any one (1) or more of the following reasons may take the examination during their 12th grade year to meet this requirement:
- 1) Transferred to an Idaho school district during the 11th grade year;
 - 2) Was homeschooled during the 11th grade year; or
 - 3) Missed the spring statewide administration of the college entrance exam dates for documented medical reasons.
- b. A student may elect an exemption in their 11th 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;
 - 2) Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three (3) academic years or less; or
 - 3) Enrolled for the first time in 12th grade at an Idaho high school after the fall statewide administration of the college entrance exam.
- c. Students who are eligible to take an alternate assessment may take the ACCUPLACER Placement exam during their senior year to meet the college entrance exam graduation requirement.
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 12th grade year. The district may impose additional requirements at its discretion.
7. Middle School Courses. See Policy No. 609.50, Awarding High School Credit for Courses Taken Before Ninth Grade.

DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

<u>Class of...</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
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

18-4511 – School Duties – Records of Missing Child – Identification upon Enrollment –
Transfer of Student Records

33-119 – Accreditation of Secondary Schools – Standards for Elementary Schools

33-512C – Encouragement of Gifted Students

33-603 – Payment of Fees or Returning of Property

33-1601, *et seq.* – Courses of Instruction

IDAPA Proposed Rule 08.02.03.104 (August 14, 2014) – Other Required Instruction

IDAPA Proposed Rule 08.02.03.105 (August 14, 2014) – High School Graduation Requirements

ADOPTED: August 28, 2002

**AMENDED: June 7, 2006; March 17, 2010; November 3, 2010; November 17, 2010;
September 18, 2013; September 23, 2014; January 28, 2015**