

Unity School District - Board of Education

Board Policy 345.6

Graduation Standards and Requirements

Last Revised 9/11/2018

The Board of Education has established a minimum credit requirement for high school graduation.

Graduation Class	Credits Required
2019	25
2020	25
2021	28
2022	28
After 2022	28

Graduates are required to have successfully completed 4 credits of language arts (English); 3 credits of social studies; 3 credits of mathematics; 3 credits of science; 1.5 credits of physical education; and .5 credits in health education (to be successfully completed in the middle school). The Board of Education shall encourage students to take an additional 10 credits from any combination of foreign language, fine arts, career and technical education or other courses. Students are not allowed to take correspondence courses in lieu of courses required for graduation. Correspondence courses may be approved at the discretion of the high school guidance office and/or high school principal as a method for making up a failed course. No more than six correspondence credits for a Unity High School diploma will be allowed. Up to 8 credits from virtual school courses may be applied to a student's GPA and the total number of credits required for graduation.

One-half credit is awarded for an 12 week course meeting five days per week, in which the semester grade earned is a D-/S (satisfactory) or better. Other courses earning less than one-half credit will be pro-rated based on the number of days per week met. The high school course-offering booklet, available in the high school office, describes these offerings. Required courses which are failed must be made up prior to graduation. Students not meeting the graduation requirements because of credit deficiency, at the end of the eighth semester are to meet with the high school principal and/or counselor. Options for credit remediation will be reviewed, to include summer school, independent study courses, WITC and Early College Credit programs.

All students must complete, on an independent basis, 40 hours of "Community Involvement" and provide valid evidence of the experience on a District approved verification form. While no academic credit will be offered for the experience, 40 hours of Community Involvement is required in order for a student to graduate. Volunteer experiences in other programs would count toward this requirement.

Students with disabilities, English language learner (ELL), exceptional interests, needs or requirements in accordance with state law and established procedures may be provided alternate education programs for high school graduation. Such alternate education programs must be identified in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 504 program, and/or English as a Second Language (ESL) program must

be related to the identified disabilities, exceptional interests or requirements of the student and have administrative approval. Successful completion of such alternate education programs shall result in the issuance of a diploma.

To be considered for a Unity High School diploma, the candidate must acquire all credits as outlined above plus complete the community service obligation.

Students who have not met the above requirements may be eligible for the Alternative Diploma Program (ADP). Students wishing to participate in ADP must complete the application procedure through the high school principal's office. Students who participate in the ADP program must earn 21.5 credits (state of Wisconsin minimum) in the following areas: 4 credits of language arts; 3 credits of social studies; 3 credits of math; 3 credits of science; 1.5 credits of physical education; .5 credit of health education; 6.5 credits from career and technical education, foreign language, fine arts and other courses offered. Diplomas will be issued when the student turns 18 years of age or when their class graduates from Unity High School.

Veteran's Diploma

A high school diploma may be awarded to a person who meets all of the following:

- a. at least 65 years old
- b. attended high school in Wisconsin and resides in the district
- c. left high school before receiving a high school diploma to join the armed forces during a war period (as defined under Chapter 45.35(5)(e)), and
- d. served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. Armed Services or in Forces incorporated as part of the U.S. Armed Forces.

The Board of Education may grant early termination of attendance to students who have successfully completed all graduation requirements by the end of the seventh semester, if such early termination of attendance is necessary for the student to carry out his/her post-secondary educational plans. Students who seek early termination of attendance must make formal application to the Board of Education no later than September 15 of their senior year.

This application must include statement of the student's post-secondary plans, documents that indicate the reasonableness of the plans and the necessity of early termination of attendance, and parent approval of the early termination of attendance request.