



Governing Board Agenda Item

Meeting Date: December 11, 2025

From: Kristin Reidy, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: Policy Consideration

Priority: To provide rigorous, relevant, and innovative academics

Consent ☐ Action ☒ Discussion ☐

Background:


The following policy is being revised based on the recommendation of the Arizona School Boards Association. The changes are derived from enactments of the 57th Legislature, First Regular Session, 2025. The policy below has been revised to align with these enactments.

Policies IKF, Graduation Requirements

HB 2540 amended A.R.S. 15-741 to include requirements regarding high school assessments conducted by a source outside of the school district or charter school and allowances for a written assessment.

Recommended Motion:

I move that the Governing Board approve the revisions to Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements, as presented.

Approved for transmittal to the Governing Board: 
Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent

Questions should be directed to: Kristin Reidy, Assistant Superintendent
Phone: (520) 682-4757

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Regular Education

A minimum number of units of credit are required for graduation by the Arizona State Board of Education. Listed below are the units that must be completed before a student may receive a high school diploma.

Graduation requirements may be met as follows:

- A. By successful completion of subject area course requirements.
- B. By mastery of the standards adopted by the State Board of Education and other competency requirements for the subject as determined by the Governing Board in accord with A.A.C. [R7-2-302-02](#) and rules established by the Superintendent.
- C. By earning credits through correspondence courses (limited to one [1] in each of the four [4] major subject areas) and/or by passing appropriate courses at the college or university level if the courses are determined to meet standards and criteria established by the Board and in accord with A.R.S. [15-701.01](#).
- D. By the transfer of credits as described in Policy JFABC.
- E. An out-of-state transfer student is not required to pass the competency test to graduate if the student has successfully passed a statewide assessment test on state adopted standards that are substantially equivalent to the State Board Adopted Academic Standards.

Graduation requirements as determined by the Arizona State Board of Education ([A.A.C. R7-2-302-02](#)) and the District Governing Board are as follows:

English	4.0 units
Math	4.0 units*
Science	3.0 units**
Social Studies	3.0 units***
American Government and Arizona Government	0.5 unit
American History - including Arizona History	1.0 unit
World History and Geography – including instruction on the Holocaust and other genocides for at least three (3) class periods, or the equivalent, on at least two (2) separate	1.0 unit

occasions during any of grades seven through twelve (7-12).	
Economics	0.5 unit****
Fine Arts or Career, Technical and Vocational Education	1.0 unit
Electives	<u>7.0 units</u>
Total	22.0 units

* In lieu of one (1) credit of Algebra II or its equivalent course content a student may request a personal curriculum in mathematics following [A.A.C. R7-2-302.03](#).

* Math courses shall consist of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, (or its equivalent) and an additional course with significant math content as determined by the Governing Board (Governing Body).

Pursuant to A.R.S. [§15-710](#), a total of one (1) year instruction in state and federal constitutions, American institutions and ideals and in the history of Arizona, including the history of Native Americans in Arizona is required during grades nine (9) through twelve (12).

Pursuant to the prescribed graduation requirements adopted by the State Board of Education, the Governing Board may approve a rigorous computer science course that would fulfill a mathematics course required for graduation from high school. The Governing Board may only approve a rigorous computer science course if the rigorous computer science course includes significant mathematics content and the Governing Board determines the high school where the rigorous computer science course is offered has sufficient capacity, infrastructure and qualified staff, including competent teachers of computer science.

** Three (3) credits of science in preparation for proficiency at the high school level on a state required test.

*** Through the graduating class of 2025, the competency requirements for social studies shall include a requirement that, in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school equivalency diploma, a ~~pupil~~-student must correctly answer at least sixty (60) of the one hundred (100) questions listed on a test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship And Immigration Services.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2026, the competency requirements for social studies shall include a requirement that, in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school equivalency diploma, a ~~pupil~~-student must correctly answer at least seventy (70) of the one hundred (100) questions listed on a test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The District school shall

document on the ~~pupil~~student's transcript only a pass or fail designation that the ~~pupil~~student has passed or failed the test.

A ~~pupil~~student in grade seven (7) or eight (8) may take the test described in this paragraph, and if the ~~pupil~~student correctly answers at least seventy (70) of the one hundred (100) questions on the test:

- a) The district school or charter school shall document on the ~~pupil~~student's transcript only a pass or fail designation that the ~~pupil~~student has passed or failed the test required by this paragraph.
- b) The ~~pupil~~student is not required to take the test required by this paragraph again in high school.

**** The State Board requirement for economics is at least one-half (.5) of a course credit, which shall include financial literacy and personal financial management.

The Governing Board may determine the method and manner in which to administer a test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. A ~~pupil~~student who does not obtain a passing score on the test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test may retake the test until the ~~pupil~~student obtains a passing score.

Each school district and charter school shall report to the department of education all of the following aggregate data, organized by grade level, relating to the test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services required by subsection A, paragraph 3 of [§A.R.S. 15-701.01](#):

1. The median score.
2. The percentage of ~~pupils~~students who passed by correctly answering the minimum number of questions required to pass the test pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 3 of [§A.R.S. 15-701.01](#).
3. The percentage of ~~pupils~~students who failed by correctly answering fewer than the minimum number of questions required to pass the test pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 3 of [§A.R.S. 15-701.01](#).
4. Any other data required by the department relating to the test.

A school district or charter school may not include the personally identifiable information of any ~~pupil~~student in the data reported to the department of education under subsection L of [§A.R.S. 15-701.01](#).

Assessments

If a high school student who is enrolled in a school district or charter school participates in a nationally recognized assessment that is both adopted by the State Board of Education and administered by a person other than the school district or charter school, the student or student's parent or guardian may submit the student's official score report for the assessment to the school district or charter school. On receiving an official score report, the school district or charter school shall do all of the following:

1. record the score in the student's file.
2. report the score to the State Board of Education and the Department of Education.
3. If the student or student's parent or guardian submits an official score report to the school district or charter school before the date on which the school administers the tests, allow the student to opt out of participation in the assessment that is administered by the school district or charter school. If a student opts out of an assessment, the school district or charter school shall use the data from the student's official score report for the student's achievement test data. "Nationally recognized" has the same meaning as provided in A.R.S. [15-741.02](#).

A school district or charter school is not required to allow a student to opt out of the collection of non-test indicator data or other information that is collected about students who participate in the assessment that is administered by the school district or charter school.

Written Assessment

A school district or charter school may administer the statewide assessment in the form of a written test if any of the following applies:

1. a written test is required pursuant to an individualized education program or a section 504 plan.
2. to accommodate special circumstances.
3. for religious purposes.
4. on request by a student's parent or guardian.

Special Education

Listed above, under "Regular Education," are the requirements that must be completed before a student may receive a high school diploma. Completion of graduation requirements for special education students who do not meet the required units of credit shall be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the special education course of study and the

individualized education program of the student. Graduation requirements established by the Governing Board may be met by a student as defined in A.R.S. [15-701.01](#) and A.A.C. [R7-2-302](#).

~~Pupils~~ Students who receive special education shall not be required to achieve passing scores on the test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test under ~~section~~ A.R.S. [15-701.01](#) in order to graduate from high school unless the ~~pupil~~ student is learning at a level appropriate for the ~~pupil~~ student's grade level in a specific academic area and unless a passing score on the test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test under section [15-701.01](#) is specifically required in a specific academic area by the ~~pupil~~ student's individualized education program as mutually agreed on by the ~~pupil~~ student's parents and the ~~pupil~~ student's individualized education program team or the ~~pupil~~ student, if the ~~pupil~~ student is at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Competency requirements. Any student who is placed in special education classes, grades nine (9) through twelve (12), is eligible to receive a high school diploma without meeting state competency requirements.

State Seal of Biliteracy. The School District may voluntarily participate in the state seal of biliteracy program by notifying the Superintendent of Public Instruction of such intention. Schools will then identify the students who have met the requirements to be awarded the state seal of biliteracy, which shall be affixed to the diploma and noted on the transcript of each student who has met the requirements.

CPR Instruction and Training. School districts and charter schools shall provide public school ~~pupils~~ students with one (1) or more training sessions in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, through the use of psychomotor skills in an age-appropriate manner, during high school.

Adopted: ~~← z2AdoptionDate~~ December 11, 2025

LEGAL REF.:

A.R.S.

[15-203](#)

[15-341](#)

[15-701.01](#)

[15-710](#)

[15-741](#)

[15-763](#)

A.A.C.

[R7-2-302.02](#)

[R7-2-302.03](#)

CROSS REF.:

[IGD](#) - Curriculum Adoption

[IGE](#) - Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

[IHAMC](#) - Instruction and Training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

[IHAMD](#) - Instruction and Training in Suicide Prevention

[IIE](#) - Student Schedules and Course Loads

[IKA](#) - Grading/Assessment Systems

[JFABC](#) - Admission of Transfer Students