

District: Tupelo Public School District
Section: I - Instructional Program
Policy Code: IHF - Graduation Requirements

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

~~1. For the entering ninth grade class of 2006-2007 and subsequent years, twenty-six Carnegie units will be required for all students graduating from the Tupelo Public School District inclusive of the listed courses. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards.~~ **1. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of the Approved Courses of Secondary Schools in Mississippi. Students enrolled in grades 7-12 may be awarded Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is a Carnegie Unit bearing course in the current edition of the Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi Manual. Enrollment in online courses must have prior approval of the principal in order to receive credit.**

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4.0 Units (1)	4.0 Units
Mathematics	4.0 Units (2)	1.0 Algebra I
Science	4.0 Units (3)	1.0 Biology I
Social Studies	4.0 Units	1.0 World History
-	-	1.0 US History
-	-	0.5 US Government
-	-	0.5 Mississippi Studies (4)
-	-	0.5 Economics
Health & PE	1.0 Unit	0.5 Comprehensive Health or Family & Individual Health
Business & Technology	1.0 Unit (5)	0.5 Keyboarding
-	-	0.5 Computer Applications
The Arts	1.0 Unit	-
Electives	7.0 Units (6)	-
Total	26.0 Units	-

~~a. Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation, however, these courses may be included in the seven (7) general electives required for graduation.~~

~~b. Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra, as well as Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Survey of Mathematical Topics, Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation, however, these courses may be included in the seven (7) general electives required for graduation. At least one of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Probability and Statistics, and AP~~

Statistics-

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- c. ~~One unit may be in Technology Applications or Introduction to Agriscience or Agriscience I or Concepts of Agriscience or Allied Health or Aquaculture. Students who elect not to complete one unit from the courses listed in sentence one of this note, three (3) Carnegie Units must be selected from among the following courses: Astronomy, Geology, Physical Science, Zoology, Environmental Science, Botany, Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics, Science Skills, and Reasoning. If one of the units from the sentence 1 list is taken, the student must select two (2) Carnegie Units from the note 2 list.~~
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- d. ~~The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. The Carnegie Units earned in Social Studies must include Mississippi Studies, U.S. History, World History, U.S. Government, Economics and 0.5 Carnegie Units from the following courses: Biblical History of the Middle East, AP European History, Global Studies, Law Related Studies, Minority Studies, Psychology, AP Psychology, or Sociology.~~
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- e. ~~One unit in Computer Discovery is accepted in lieu of the two ½ unit courses. Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the Business and Technology Framework (academic and vocational).~~
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- f. ~~Elective units in physical education include participation in interscholastic athletic activities that meet the instructional requirements specified in the Fitness through Physical Education Framework and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association. In addition, the limitations have been removed on the number of elective Carnegie Units earned in band, physical education, and choral music. Exemption from physical education will require annual submission of a letter or written statement from a licensed physician.~~
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- g. ~~Starting with the entering freshman class of 2010-2011, students must successfully complete a Graduation Project. Students will select a topic in which s/he will submit a research paper, create a product, design a portfolio, and participate in an oral presentation. An evaluation rubric will be used to score the projects. The rubric will be developed by a team appointed by Tupelo High School administration.~~
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- h. ~~The culmination of the Graduation Project will occur during the students' senior year to show his or her competency/proficiency rating according to the rubric for each component of the Graduation Project in order to graduate. Occupational Course of Study (OCS) students may have a modified Graduation Project. The OCS students will participate in the parts of the Graduation Project as state in the students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP).~~
- i. ~~English must be taken and passed in the following order: English I, English II, English III, English IV.~~

2. ~~For the entering ninth grade class for school year 2008-2009 and subsequent years that are enrolled in one of the District's academic alternative programs, a student may opt to graduate with an alternate diploma with a reduced amount of credit requirement as outlined in the Mississippi Department of Education Graduation Requirements Standard 20 Appendix A-3. Appendix A-3 states, "Beginning school year 2008-2009 and thereafter, all entering ninth graders (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) will be required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified below, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-3~~

~~requirements. Any student who is taken out of these requirements of Appendix A-3 will be required to complete the graduation requirements as specified in Appendix A-2.~~ The requirements for graduation requirements for Standard 20 Appendix A-3 are outlined in IKF Exhibit 2.

If a student's parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-3, for lesser graduation requirements, then the student must fulfill the requirements as outlined in Appendix A-2. The graduation requirements for Standard 20 Appendix A-2 are outlined in IKF Exhibit 3. A student may not graduate ahead of his cohort unless he has earned 26 or more Carnegie units.

~~3. A graduate of the TPSD must successfully complete the specified academic end-of-course tests (subject area tests) in U.S. History from 1877, English II (with a writing component), Biology I, and Algebra I as well as meeting any other graduation requirements mandated by the State of Mississippi or required by the District. All students must pass the four academic end-of-course tests (subject area tests) in order to earn a regular high school diploma.~~

~~4. With the prior approval of the principal, students enrolled in an accredited summer school program may earn a maximum of one unit of credit applicable to graduation requirements during each summer school session. A total of one Carnegie unit earned through a correspondence course may also be counted toward meeting the minimum graduation requirements. The correspondence course must have the prior approval of the principal.~~

~~5. 2. Students entering the ninth grade in 2017-2018 and earlier~~ who successfully meet all graduation requirements as established by the State of Mississippi and the **TPSD** Board of Trustees of the ~~TPSD~~ will be awarded a diploma based on the following standards:

Standard	Type of Diploma
Successfully complete the minimum number of required Carnegie units and required courses.	Diploma
Successfully complete the minimum number of Carnegie units and courses required by Graduation Requirement Standard 20 of Mississippi Department of Education.	District Pathway (Alternate Diploma)
Successfully complete 26 (27 Carnegie Units for 2006-2007 entering ninth graders) Carnegie units and required courses with 85 minimum average.	Diploma with Commendations
Successfully complete 28 Carnegie units and required courses with 85 minimum averages.	Diploma with Honors

~~6. 3. Students with a final grade point average between 95 and 100 for all courses taken in grades 9-12 will graduate with special distinction. Students with a final grade point average between 89-94 for all courses taken in grades 9-12 will graduate with distinction.~~

~~7. 4. In lieu of the above requirements, a student who has been ruled eligible for a special education in the **TPSD District** may exercise an option to work toward a certificate of completion or an occupational diploma. At the completion of eighth grade, the requirements for earning a certificate or diploma will be presented to the parents of a student ruled eligible for special education services which explains the procedures and requirements for each option. The parents will execute a signed agreement with the **TPSD District** specifying the option selected. This decision will be subject to reconsideration by all parties.~~

~~8. 5. The Individual Education Plan (IEP) will thereafter reflect the option selected by the parents~~

and will specify whether the student is seeking a diploma or certificate. By or before age twenty-one, a special education student will be eligible to receive a certificate and participate in high school graduation ceremonies upon satisfactory and successful completion of the objectives at an achievement level consistent with the ability of the student and as specified in the student's IEP.

9. 6. All students successfully completing the requirements for the General Educational Development program will be awarded a certificate upon the completion of their Individual Career Plan.

7. For the entering ninth grade class of 2018-2019 and subsequent years, twenty-four Carnegie units will be required for all students graduating from the TPSD inclusive of the listed courses. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of the Approved Courses of Secondary Schools in Mississippi. Students enrolled in grades 7-12 maybe awarded Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is a Carnegie Unit bearing course in the current edition of the Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi Manual. Enrollment in online courses must have prior approval granted by the principal. Additionally, students who are enrolled in end-of-course Subject Area Tested Course for the first time must participate in the assessment to earn the Carnegie Unit. The assessment score will constitute 25% of the student's final grade in the course as required by the MDE.

8. Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as outlined in the Tupelo High School handbook and has met the requirements for each of the required high school assessments is eligible to receive a high school diploma.

9. Students may earn one of the following endorsements to be added to the traditional diploma:

Career and Technical Endorsement

Academic Endorsement

Distinguished Academic Endorsement.

Requirements for each Endorsement Diploma are outlined in the Tupelo High School Handbook.

Last Review Date: _____

Review History:[1/1/1900][1/1/1901]

IKF-E1 Graduation Requirement Occupational Diploma
Expires 2020

IKF-E2 Appendix A-3 Graduation Requirements Standard 20
Expires 2021

IKF-E3 Appendix A-2 Graduation Requirements Standard 20
Expires 2021

[IKF - E4 TPSD Diploma Options - Freshmen 2018-2019 and Later.pdf](#)GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/CARNEGIE UNIT REQUIREMENTS

TPSD administrators will utilize the following procedures to determine the validity of Carnegie unit credit for academic course work completed by students through instructional programs not recognized by state or regional accrediting agencies as approved Carnegie unit granting programs:

1. ~~Prior written approval of the Tupelo High School principal to enroll in a course for Carnegie unit credit offered by an institution not accredited by a state or regional agency to award Carnegie units, and~~
2. Documented enrollment in a program of instruction that provides scope of content with opportunities for mastery of those objectives and skills listed in the Mississippi Curriculum Framework. ~~and the TPSD List of Learnings and Skills, and~~
3. Documented mastery of those objectives and skills ~~listed in the Mississippi Curriculum Framework and TPSD List of Learnings and Skills~~ for the specific course or courses for which Carnegie units are requested, ~~and as demonstrated through successful completion with a minimum numerical grade of 65 on the TPSD end of course examinations for the courses for which Carnegie units are being requested.~~
4. Documented yearly numerical grades of ~~95-65~~ or higher in the most recently completed course taken at a state or regionally accredited institution recognized as a Carnegie unit granting institution. The course must be in the same content area as the course for which Carnegie unit credit is being requested. ~~, and~~
5. ~~Successful completion with a minimum numerical grade of 70 on the TPSD end of course examinations for the courses for which Carnegie units are being requested, and~~
6. ~~Enrollment in the TPSD as a full-time student and successful completion of the next successive course in the curriculum for the content area in which the award of a Carnegie unit is being requested.~~

The decision of the principal will be final relative to the acceptance of Carnegie unit credits from institutions not authorized by state or regional accreditation agencies to grant Carnegie units.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, Tupelo High School will operate a credit recovery program. Credit recovery is a course-specific, skill-based learning opportunity for students who have previously been unsuccessful in mastering content/skills required to receive course credit or earn promotion. Tupelo High School will utilize the following procedures to operate the Credit Recovery Program:

1. A student may make application for admission to credit recovery or a counselor may make a recommendation ~~in~~ on behalf of a student.
2. Selected courses within the core curriculum will comprise the Credit Recovery Program.
3. A student who has received credit for a course is not eligible for credit recovery unless the student has not passed the end-of-course test(s) required for graduation.
4. A student with a numerical average below 50 will not be eligible for credit recovery.
5. The credit recovery course must be completed in a semester. An additional semester for the same course will require administrative approval.

6. A student must have administrative approval to enroll in a credit recovery course. The final credit recovery grade will be factored with the final grade earned by the student during the regular school term. The credit recovery grade will count as two-thirds of the final average, and the final grade earned during the regular school term will count as one-third of the final average. The student's grade cannot exceed two letter grades from the failing grade.
7. The Credit Recovery Program shall be based on the Mississippi Curriculum Framework competencies and objectives.
8. Credit recovery teachers will follow TPSD Policy IHA when grading and evaluating students enrolled in the Credit Recovery Program.

Adopted Date: 3/5/2013

Approved/Revised Date: