

INSTRUCTION

2700P

High School Graduation Requirements

Publication of Graduation Requirements

Prior to registering in high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

Credits

Students shall be expected to earn a total of 46 semester credits in order to complete graduation requirements. Special education students who have successfully completed their IEP leading to completion of high school will be awarded a diploma.

Students will be required to have earned a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average in order to be eligible for a Homedale School District high school diploma.

Graduating Classes of 2013 and Beyond

The core of instruction is **twenty-nine semester credits**:

Language Arts and Communication 9 credits

English (language study, composition, literature) 8 credits
Speech or Debate 1 credit

Mathematics 6 credits

Algebra I or course meeting Algebra I Content Standards 2 credits
Geometry or course meeting Geometry Content Standards 2 credits
Mathematics course of the student's choice 2 credits

Note: Two (2) credits must be taken during the last year of high school in which the student intends to graduate. For the purposes of this procedure, the last year of high school shall include the summer preceding the fall start of classes. Students who return to school during the summer or the following fall of 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.

Science 6 credits

Note: Four credits must be laboratory based

Social Studies 5 credits

Government 2 credits
U.S. History 2 credits
Economics 1 credit

Humanities	2 credits
Interdisciplinary humanities, visual and performing arts, or foreign language	
Health/Wellness	1 credit
Elective Classes	17 credits
Online Learning Requirement	2 credits
(Effective for all students who enter the ninth grade in the fall of 2012 or later)	
Courses shall be from an asynchronous online course, synchronous online course, or blended course at the discretion of the District.	

Alternate Plan for Online Learning Requirement

A student who has taken a one (1) credit asynchronous online course and failed to earn the credit may appeal to the District and will be given an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency of the technology content standards. The Superintendent shall develop procedures for an alternate plan for students to demonstrate proficiency of the technology content standards and provide notice of that plan to all students who have not earned the credits to meet the online learning requirement prior to the fall semester of the student's junior year. The alternate plan procedures used to demonstrate proficiency shall be forwarded to the Board for review and adoption. Any changes to the alternate plan must be promptly re-submitted to the Board for review and adoption.

Before entering an alternate plan the student must be:

1. Enrolled in a special education program and have an Individual Education Plan; or
2. Has been identified as eligible to receive services under Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or
3. Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient program for three (3) academic years or less.

The alternate plan must:

1. Contain multiple measures of student achievement;
2. Be aligned at a minimum to Idaho technology content standards; and
3. Be valid and reliable.

Middle School Credit

If a middle school student completes any required high school course with a grade of C or higher before entering the ninth grade, and if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school, then the student has met the high school content area requirement for such course. However, the student still must complete the required number of credits in all high school core subjects identified above in addition to the courses completed in middle school, [unless the student is a participant in the 8 in 6 program.](#)

College Entrance Examination

A student must take one of the following college entrance [or placement](#) examinations before the end of the student's eleventh grade year: COMPASS, ~~ACCUPLACER~~, ACT, or SAT.

A student may elect an exemption in their eleventh [\(11th\)](#) 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 that specifies accommodations not allowed for a reportable score on the approved tests; ~~or~~
2. Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient program for three (3) academic years or less;
3. Enrolled for the first time in grade twelve (12) at an Idaho high school after the spring statewide administration of the college entrance exam; or
4. Eligible to take an alternative assessment. In this case the student may instead take the ACCUPLACER placement exam during their senior year.

A student who misses the statewide administration of the college exam during the student's eleventh (11th) grade year may instead take the examination during his or her twelfth (12th) grade year if the student:

1. Transferred to an Idaho school district during his or her eleventh (11th) grade year;
2. Was homeschooled during his or her eleventh (11th) grade year; or
3. Missed the spring statewide administration of the college entrance exam for a documented medical reason.

Senior Project

A student shall complete a senior project that includes a research paper and oral presentation by the end of grade twelve (12).

Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT)

In addition to obtaining the necessary credits as outlined above, a student will show proficiency on the Idaho Student Achievement Test (ISAT) as defined by State Board rules. Students who receive a proficient or advanced score on the grade ten (10) ISAT while in grade nine (9) may bank the score for purposes of meeting their graduation requirements. Students who do not attain at least a proficient score on the Idaho Student Achievement Test will have the option of appealing to the Board of Trustees for relief from the ISAT proficiency requirement. Students who choose to appeal must meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Must be enrolled in a special education program and have a current Individual Education Plan (IEP); or
2. Must be enrolled in a Limited English Proficiency Program; or
3. Must be enrolled in the fall semester of the senior year.

The district requires that all students who appeal from relief of the ISAT proficiency requirements must successfully complete an alternative program equivalent to the ISAT requirement approved by the Board of Trustees in order to graduate.

The District program that students must use to demonstrate that they possess the skills and knowledge necessary to graduate from Homedale High School is as follows:

- A. Successfully complete performance measures that are equivalent to the sub skills areas measured in the ISAT, and/or

- B. Successfully complete multiple factors that evaluate academic proficiency and performance of an individual child. These factors should include:
- Grade point average;
 - Assessment scores including ISAT reading, ISAT math, ISAT language arts, Directing Writing Assessment and/or literacy assessment;
 - Performance assessment measures, as appropriate, or other performance entries included in a student's portfolio;
 - Other professional/institutional evaluations, including end-of-course assessments, senior projects, community service, work experience, attendance and work ethics documented at school site.

The District alternative programs are aligned to state content standards and are based on academic proficiency and performance.

Waiver of Requirement

Graduation requirements generally will not be waived under any circumstances. However, in rare and extenuating circumstances, the Principal may recommend and the Superintendent may approve minor deviation from the graduation requirements.

Alternative Programs

Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, university courses, correspondence courses, and online/virtual courses.

Credit for work experience may be offered when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

All classes attempted at Homedale High School and all acceptable transfer credits shall be recorded on the transcript. All high school students who desire to retake a course can do so and if a higher grade is earned, that the higher grade replace the previous grade. The replaced grade will not be used in the calculation of the Grade Point Average (GPA). Credit shall be awarded only once regardless of repetition of the course.

Early Graduation

1. Applications for graduating one (1) semester early must be made on or before the February school board meeting of the student's junior year. Students must have passed all classes the previous school year and have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average and be on track to graduate in order to be eligible to graduate early.
 - a) Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.
 - b) Students must attend a minimum of seven (7) semesters (or equivalent) as a full-time student and meet all Homedale High School graduation requirements.
2. Applications for graduating two (2) semesters early must be made on or before the August school board meeting of the student's junior year. Students must have passed all classes the

previous school year and have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average and be on track to graduate in order to be eligible to graduate early.

- a) Students must attend a minimum of six (6) semesters (or equivalent) as a full-time student and meet all Homedale High School graduation requirements
 - b) Students who graduate with less than seven (7) semesters forfeit all honors and recognition associated with graduation, i.e. honors, ranking, etc.
 - c) Students, parents or guardians should contact the counselor's office for a more detailed list of items the student may forfeit by graduating two (2) semesters early.
3. A proposal by the student should be submitted to the Early Graduation Committee (composed of counselors, attendance office registrar, and principal or designee). This committee will determine the recommendation that will be given to the local Board of Trustees.
4. Correspondence Credit/Summer School Credit/Night School Credit
- a) Seven (7) semester credits of correspondence/summer school/night school courses may be accepted toward high school graduation for any pupil.
 - b) Acceptance of correspondence/summer school/night school credit shall be at the option of the local board of trustees within the framework of the following:
 - i) A school shall not accept correspondence/summer school/night school credit for meeting high school graduation requirements unless there has been prior approval of the specific correspondence/summer school/night school course by the Principal or designee.
5. When the above criteria have been met, the student must personally appear and present his/her petition to the Board of Trustees.

The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary for students participating in the Dual Credit for Early Completers program during their senior year of high school. A student participating in the Dual Credit for Early Completers program need not have completed a senior project prior to participating in the program. Attendance for students participating in such programs during the senior year of high school will be counted as normal for public school funding purposes.

Participation in graduation ceremonies is a privilege extended to students. Students may be denied the right to participate.

Cross Reference: Policy 2710 Alternative Measure to the ISAT

Legal Reference: [I.C. I.C. § 33-1620, et seq. Mastery Advancement Pilot Program](#)
[I.C. § 33-1626](#) Dual Credit for Early Completers

IDAPA 08.02.01.350	Early Graduation
IDAPA 08.02.03.105	Graduation from High School
IDAPA 08.02.03.107	High School Graduation Standards

Procedure History:

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