

**IKF ©
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 any 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 (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	1.0 unit
Economics	0.5 unit
Fine Arts or Career, Technical and Vocational Education	1.0 unit
Physical Education	1.0 units****
Electives	6.0 units
Total	22.0 units

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

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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.

*** Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, 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 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 (“the Civics Test”). The Governing Board may determine the method and manner in which to administer the Civics Test. The District school shall document on the student's transcript that the student has passed the Civics Test. A student who does not obtain a passing score on the Civics Test may retake the Civics Test until the student obtains a passing score.

**** Begins with the incoming 9th grade class of 2016-2017.

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.

Students who receive special education shall not be required to achieve passing scores on the Civics Test, in order to graduate from high school unless the student is learning at a level appropriate for the student's grade level in a specific academic area and unless a passing score on the CivicsTest is specifically required in a specific academic area by the student's individualized education program as mutually agreed on by the student's parents and the student's individualized education program team or the student, if the student is at least eighteen 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, but reference to special education placement may be placed on the student's transcript or permanent file.

Adopted: September 8, 2015

LEGAL REF.:

A.R.S.

15-203

15-341

15-701.01

15-701.02

A.A.C.

R7-2-302.02

R7-2-302.03

R7-2-302.09

CROSS REF.:

IGD - Curriculum Adoption

IGE - Curriculum Guides and Course Outlines

IIE - Student Schedules and Course Loads

IKA - Grading/Assessment Systems

JFABC - Admission of Transfer Students

REGULATION

IKF-RA ©

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

(Determining Competency for Graduation Credit)

Determination and verification of student accomplishment of subject-area course requirements and/or competencies for graduation credit shall be the responsibility of a subject-area teacher and shall, at a minimum, be in accord with the following:

- The student shall have successfully completed the subject-area course requirement incorporating the standards and competencies adopted by the State Board of Education from the course of study as determined by the Governing Board in accord with the District's designated grading system; or
- As an alternative to completing the course requirements, a student may request, upon a showing of familiarity with the subject matter of the course, an examination on the competencies of the course. The student may take an examination on a particular course one (1) time only in an academic year. The examination shall be prepared by a teacher of the subject matter who is designated by the Superintendent. To receive graduation credit, the student must demonstrate accomplishment of the standards and competencies adopted by the State Board of Education and the Governing Board, respectively. Demonstration of accomplishment of the skills and competencies shall be determined in accord with accepted practices in evaluation of students. A copy of the test results, verified by the appointed teacher, shall be filed with the student's records.

REGULATION

IKF-RB

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

(High School Courses Taken During Middle School)

High School Courses Taken in District Middle Schools

A student who has attended an Amphitheater District middle school will receive high school credit for Algebra, Geometry, and/or Algebra II courses and high school level Spanish I and Spanish II courses taken during the student's middle school enrollment. The grades earned in such courses shall be posted on the student's high school transcript and shall be included in grade point average calculations as if the courses were taken during high school.

High School Courses Taken in Non-District Middle Schools

Because instructional content, standards and practices may vary in external instructional programs, and to assure adequate preparation of students for higher level content within the District, a student who attended a non-Amphitheater District middle school and who, during that external middle school enrollment, completed courses equivalent in content and rigor to high school level courses in Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, Spanish I and Spanish II, will receive high school credit for such courses taken during the student's middle school enrollment, provided the student demonstrates adequate mastery of the course content.

The student will demonstrate adequate mastery through an end-of-course assessment in the content area with a resulting score of 80% or better. The end of course assessment shall be developed and administered by a District teacher(s) who is (are) secondary certificated and is (are) highly qualified in the content area. The District shall not assess a fee for the administration of the end-of-course assessment.

Students who do not demonstrate content mastery by achieving a score of 80% or better on the assessment will not receive credit for the high school course taken in middle school, nor will the grade in the high school course taken in middle school be included in the student's high school grade point average calculation.

The 80% score criteria may be modified and high school credit may be given to individual students approaching the 80% criteria if consensus is reached among appropriate faculty members representing the District high school and the sending middle school, consistent with the AdvancEd standards.