**6005**

**Academic Credits and Graduation**

The district shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by an accredited school district, and shall award a diploma to an option student if the student meets the district’s graduation requirements.

Dorchester Public Schools, to grant a Dorchester High School diploma to those students who have met the requirements of this policy. To qualify for a Dorchester High School Diploma, two hundred forty (240) total credit hours will be required.

The Personal Finance requirement takes effect for the graduating class of 2024 per Nebraska Statute. The English requirement takes effect for the class of 2026 per DPS Board Policy.

Required courses and credit hours that students must complete in order to qualify for the Dorchester High School Diploma are:

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS CREDIT HOURS**

English (Eng. 9, 10, 11, 12 or DC) 40

Speech 5

Social Science (American History, American Government required) 30

Mathematics 30

Science 30

Computer Education 10

Personal Finance 5

Vocational Education 10

Visual/Performing Arts 5

Physical Education/Health 10

Other Electives 65

TOTAL 240

Transfer students must meet the minimum hours requirement for graduation both in terms of total number and specific subject areas. Substitutions may be made for deficiencies in required courses, provided that it was not possible to include the courses on the student’s schedule while enrolled at Dorchester High School.

Students who receive special education services are mainstreamed into the regular education curriculum, when appropriate. The curriculum content of regular education classes may be modified to accommodate the individual needs and abilities of verified special education students. Each curriculum modification will be included on the student’s Individual Education Plan by the Multi-Disciplinary Team and/or school staffing teams composed of special and regular education staff. Hours in special education will be counted toward a high school diploma and these classes will be so marked on the student’s transcript.

All 9-12 students are expected to complete 30 hours of community service for graduation. Students moving into the district will be prorated in accordance with time enrolled in classes. Hours must not be done for immediate family members or through another school group. Students are required to turn in documentation of these hours into the guidance office by April 15.

Adopted on: 4-10-06

Revised on: 08-12-12, 11-13-17, 2-06-23

Reviewed on: 5-18-15