

**SCHOOL POLICIES
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

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SERIES	600	Educational Program
SUBJECT	613	Graduation Requirements
Adopted		April 24, 2001
Revised		March 7, 2017

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

To graduate from high school, students must complete a course of study that embeds the Minnesota Academic Standards, identified school district Essential Learning Outcomes, and satisfy state graduation requirements.

The school district's curriculum, instruction, assessment and services to students shall be aligned with the requirements and standards under state law.

III. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Subjects and Coursework

1. Students must complete the following:
 - (a) Four years of Language Arts;
 - (b) Three years of Mathematics, including an Algebra I credit and an Algebra II credit or its equivalent;
 - (c) 3.5 years of Social Studies, encompassing at least United States History, Geography, Government and Citizenship, World History, and Economics;
 - (d) Three years of Science, including at least one year of Biology, one year of Chemistry or Physics, and one elective of Science;
 - (e) One year of the Arts;

- (f) Seven elective credits; and
- (g) The graduating classes of 2018 and 2019 are required to complete a minimum of three trimester credits of health/physical education, which must include Health I and II. Beginning with the graduating class of 2020, the elective credit requirements must include one year of health/physical education.

*The total number of required credits for graduation according to the school district's trimester system and specific coursework requirements are set forth in the school district's Registration Manual, which will be reviewed annually.

The school district will align with its current statutory and regulatory regulations to align its structure, assessment and services.

- B. The academic standards for graduation apply to all students, except those with extreme cognitive or physical impairments for whom an Individualized Education Program team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An Individualized Education Program team that makes this determination must establish alternative standards.
- C. The school district shall offer a systemic approach to student education and career planning, assessment, instructional support and evaluation, which includes the following:

IV. EARLY GRADUATION

Students may be considered for early graduation, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, Section 120B.07 upon meeting the following conditions:

1. All course and credit requirements are met;
2. The principal or designee shall conduct an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarize the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary education, and arrive at a timely decision; and
3. The principal's decision shall be in writing and may be subject to review by the Superintendent and School Board.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. §120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. §120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. §120B.024 (Graduation Requirements; Course Credits)
Minn. Stat. §120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. §120B.07 (Early Graduation)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)

Minn. Rule Parts 3501.0010 – 3501.0180 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading)

Minn. Rule Parts 3501.0200 - 3501.0290 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards– Written Composition)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0745 (K-12 Standards)