

**Nooksack Valley School District No. 506**  
**Policy: 2410**  
**Section: 2000 - Instruction**

**High School Graduation Requirements**

The board will establish graduation requirements which, at a minimum, satisfy those established by the State Board of Education. The board will approve additional graduation requirements as recommended by the superintendent. Graduation requirements in effect when a student first enrolls in high school will remain in effect until that student graduates. The board will award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in the district who meets the requirements established by the district. Only one diploma will be awarded with no distinctions being made between the various programs of instruction which may be pursued.

**CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Class of:</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019 and beyond</b>
<i>Entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade after July 1 of:</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>
English	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Mathematics	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Science	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Social Studies	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	3	3	3	3
Arts	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Health and Fitness	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Career and Tech Ed								1
Occupational Education	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
World Language								2
Electives	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	4	4	4	4
<b>Total Required Credits:</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>

**Additional credit information for Classes of 2015-2017**

**Math (3 credits required)**

Math credits are required as follows: Algebra 1 or Integrated Math 1; Geometry or Integrated Math 2; Algebra 2 or Integrated Math 3, or a 3<sup>rd</sup> credit of math, other than Algebra 2 or Integrated Math 3, if the elective is based on a career-oriented program of study identified in the student's High School and Beyond Plan and the student, parent/guardian and a school representative meet, discuss the plan and sign a from pursuant to WAC 180-51-067(2)(b).

**Social Studies (2.5 credits required for Class of 2015, 3 credits required for Classes of 2016-2017)**

For the Class of 2015, the following courses are required: 1 credit of U.S. History and Government, 1 credit of Contemporary World History, Geography and Problems, and .5 credits of Washington State History. For the Classes of 2016 and 2017, the following courses are required: 1 credit of U.S. History and Government, 1 credit of Contemporary World History, Geography and Problems, .5 credits of Civics (content may be embedded in another social studies course) and .5 Social Studies elective.

The Washington State history and government requirement may be met in grades 7 through 12. If the course is taken in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, it fulfills the requirement, but high school credit will only be awarded if the academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who meet the requirement but do not earn credit must still take the required number of social studies credits in high school.

### **Career and Technical Education equivalencies**

The district has determined the following Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses to be equivalent to a non-CTE course: *insert courses*. These courses may be used to meet two (2) graduation requirements.

## **Additional credit information for Class of 2018**

### **Math (3 credits required)**

The following courses are required: Algebra 1 or Integrated Math 1; Geometry or Integrated Math 2; Algebra 2 or Integrated Math 3, or a third credit of math, if the elective is based on a career-oriented program of study identified in the student's High School and Beyond Plan and the student, parent/guardian and a school representative meet, discuss the plan and sign a form pursuant to WAC 180-51-067.

### **Science (2 credits required)**

At least one lab is required.

### **Social Studies (3 credits required)**

The following are required: U.S. History and Government; Contemporary World History, Geography and Problems; .5 credits of Civics (content may be embedded in another social studies course); .5 credits of Social Studies elective.

### **Arts (1 credit required)**

Performing or visual arts is required

### **Health and Fitness (2 credits required)**

The following are required: .5 credits of Health (must include instruction in CPR and appropriate use of an automated external defibrillator (AED)); 1.5 credits of Fitness. Students must earn credit for physical education unless excused pursuant to RCW 28A.230.050.

**Occupational Education (1 credit required)**

A CTE course or one that meets the definition of an exploratory course according to the [CTE program standards](#)

**Additional credit information for Class of 2019 and beyond**

Credit requirements conform to Career & College-Ready Graduation requirements.

**Math (3 credits required)**

The following courses are required: Algebra 1 or integrated Math 1, Geometry or Integrated Math 2 and a third credit of math chosen by the student based on the student’s interest and High School and Beyond Plan and approved by the parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference, the school counselor or principal will approve the course.

**Science (3 credits required)**

At least two (2) labs are required and a third credit of Science chosen by the student based on the student’s interest and High School and Beyond Plan and approved by the parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference, the school counselor or principal will approve the course.

**Social Studies (3 credits required)**

The following are required: U.S. History and Government; Contemporary World History, Geography and Problems; 0.5 credits of Civics (content may be embedded in another social studies course); 0.5 credits of Social Studies elective.

**Arts (2 credits required)**

Performing or visual arts is required. One (1) credit may be a **Personalized Pathway Requirement**, defined as related courses that lead to a specific post-high school career or educational outcome chosen by the student and based on the student’s interests and High School and Beyond Plan, which may include Career and Technical Education, and are intended to provide a focus for the student’s learning.

**World Language (2 credits required)**

Both credits may be a Personalized Pathway Requirement. If the student has chosen a four-year degree pathway in their High School and Beyond Plan, the student will be advised to earn 2 credits in world language.

**Career and Technical Education (1 credit required)**

This credit may be an Occupational Education course that meets the definition of an exploratory course as described in the [CTE program standards](#).

**ASSESSMENTS**

<b>Class of:</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
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<i>Entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade after July 1 of:</i>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	Reading and Writing High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE)			Reading and Writing HSPE, <b>or</b> ELA SBAC, <b>or</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA Exit Exam		10 <sup>th</sup> grade ELA Exit Exam, <b>or</b> ELA SBAC	ELA S
	Math HSPE, or one Math EOC, <b>or</b> earn 2 credits of Math after 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	One Math EOC Exam in Algebra I/Integrated math 1 <b>or</b> geometry/Integrated math 2		One Math EOC Exam <b>or</b> Algebra I/Integrated math 1 EOC Exam <b>or</b> Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC Exit Exam <b>or</b> Math SBAC			One M Exam 1/Integ <b>or</b> Geome Math 2 SBAC
				CLASS OF 2017 ONLY: Biology EOC Exam			Biolog

**Additional assessment information**

SBAC refers to the Common Core State Standard assessments developed by the multi-state consortium, the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. ELA SBAC refers to the English Language Arts assessment that will be administered to students in the 11th grade.

The 10th grade ELA Exit Exam refers to a Common Core State Standard assessment that will be developed by Washington using SBAC components. The Math EOC Exit Exam will be developed by the spring of 2015 and will be aligned with Common Core State Standards.

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) implementation and assessment development are underway as of December, 2014 and may be required for graduation for students graduating after 2015.

## NON-CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

Class of:	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<i>Entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade after July 1 of:</i>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	Culminating Project			As of the Class of 2015, the Culminating Project is no longer a state requirement				
	High School and Beyond Plan							
	Certificate of Academic Achievement or Individual Achievement awarded to student who pass the required assessments							
				Washington State history and government				

### High School and Beyond Plan

Within the first year of high school enrollment, each student will develop a High School and Beyond Plan. The plan will be developed in collaboration with the student, parents/guardians and district staff and include, at a minimum: 1) a career goal; 2) an educational goal; 3) a four-year course plan for high school; and 4) identification of required assessments. Each student plan should be reviewed annually at the beginning of the school year to assess student progress, to adjust the plan if necessary and to advise the student on steps for successful completion of the plan. Whether the student has met requirements for the High School and Beyond Plan is determined by the district.

A student receiving special education services who has developed a transition plan as part of their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may be considered by the district to have developed a High School and Beyond Plan.

### Certificate of Academic Achievement

A student will receive a certificate of academic achievement (CAA) if they earn the appropriate number of credits required by the district, complete the High School and Beyond plan, complete the Culminating Project (not required for the Class of 2015 and beyond) and meet the reading, writing and math standards on the high school statewide assessment or an appropriate state-approved alternative (“CAA option”).

### Certificate of Individual Achievement

A student qualifying for special education services may earn a Certificate of Individual Achievement after passing assessments determined by the student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team to be appropriate for the student based on their learner characteristics, post-secondary goals and previous testing history.

### International Baccalaureate Program Diploma

A student who fulfills the requirements for an International Baccalaureate Programme diploma is considered to have satisfied the minimum state requirements for graduation from high school, but the district may require the student to complete additional local graduation requirements. To receive an international baccalaureate diploma, a student must complete and pass all required diploma program courses as scored at the local level,

pass all internal assessments as scored at the local level, successfully complete all required projects and products as scored at the local level and complete the final exams administered by the international baccalaureate organization in each of the required subjects.

### **Awarding of High School Credit**

High school credit will be awarded for successful completion of a specified unit of study. In this district, successful completion of a specified unit of study means:

1. Earning a passing grade according to the district's grading policy and/or
2. Demonstrating proficiency/mastery of content standards as determined by the district; and/or
3. Successfully completing an established number of hours of planned instructional activities to be determined by the district.
4. The district will establish a process for determining proficiency/mastery for credit-bearing courses of study.

### **Implementation**

The superintendent will develop procedures for implementing this policy which include:

1. Determination of the education plan process for identifying competencies;
2. Establishing the process for completion of the High School and Beyond Plan;
3. Recommending course and credit requirements which satisfy the State Board of Education requirements and recognize the expectations of the citizens of the district;
4. Determining which courses satisfy particular subject area requirements and whether a particular course may satisfy more than one subject area requirement, including a process for determining the credits the district will recognize for courses taken through another program recognized by the state (e.g. another public school district or an approved private school) or those courses taken by students moving into the state from another state or country. Decisions regarding the recognition of credits earned before enrolling in the district will be based on the professional judgment of the high school principal or designee based on an evaluation of the student's former program and demonstrated knowledge and skills in the discipline for which credit is sought. The decision of the principal may be appealed to the superintendent within fifteen school days;
5. Making graduation requirements available in writing to students, parents and members of the public;
6. Providing for a waiver of graduation requirements for an individual student when permitted. All state graduation requirements must be satisfied unless a waiver is permitted by law;
7. Granting credit for learning experiences conducted away from school, including National Guard high school career training;
8. Granting credit for correspondence, vocational-technical institutes and/or college courses for college or university course work the district has agreed to accept for high school credit. State law requires that the district award one high school credit for every five quarter hour credit or three semester hour credit successfully earned through a college or university, except for community college high school completion programs where the district awards the diploma. Tenth and eleventh

- grade students and their parents will be notified annually of the Running Start Program;
9. Granting credit for work experience;
  10. Granting credit based upon competence testing, in lieu of enrollment;
  11. Granting credit for high school courses completed before a student attended high school, to the extent that the course work exceeded the requirements for seventh or eighth grade;
  12. Counseling of students to know what is expected of them in order to graduate;
  13. Preparing a list of all graduating students for the information of the board and release to the public;
  14. Preparing suitable diplomas and final transcripts for graduating seniors;
  15. Planning and executing graduation ceremonies; and
  16. Developing student learning plans for students who are not successful on one or more components of the statewide assessment.

In the event minimum test requirements are adopted by the board, a student who possesses a disability will satisfy those competency requirements which are incorporated into the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Satisfactory completion of the objectives incorporated into the IEP will serve as the basis for determining completion of a course.

### **Seal of Biliteracy**

The district will award the Washington Seal of Biliteracy to students who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading and writing in one or more world languages in addition to English. Students who meet the criteria as established in [WAC 392-410-350](#) will be awarded the seal on their high school diploma and transcript. The superintendent will implement procedures to determine eligibility.

### **Awarding of a Diploma**

A student will be issued a diploma after completing the district's requirements for graduation. In lieu of the certificate of academic achievement, special education students may earn a certificate of individual achievement. A student will also be advised that he/she may receive a final transcript.

### **Withholding of a Diploma**

A student's diploma or transcript may be withheld until the student pays for any school property that has been lost or willfully damaged. Upon payment for damages, or the equivalency through voluntary work, the diploma or transcript will be released. When the damages or fines do not exceed \$100, the student or his/her parents will have the right to an appeal using the same process as used for short-term suspension as defined in Policy 3241, [Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Action](#). When damages are in excess of \$100, the appeal process for long term suspension as defined in Policy 3241, [Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Action](#), will apply. The district may, in its discretion, choose to offer in-school suspension in these circumstances.

In the event that other forms of corrective actions are imposed for violations of school rules, the student may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies. Such exclusion will be regarded as a school suspension. In such instances, the diploma will be granted.

Cross References:

2418 - Waiver of High School Graduation Credits  
3412 - Automated External Defibrillators  
3520 - Student Fees, Fines, or Charges  
3241 - Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Action  
3110 - Qualification of Attendance and Placement

Legal References:

RCW 28A.230.090 High school graduation requirements or equivalencies — Reevaluation of graduation requirements — Review and authorization of proposed changes — Credit for courses taken before attending high school — Postsecondary credit equivalencies  
RCW 28A.230.093 Social studies course credits – Civics coursework  
RCW 28A.230.097 Career and technical high school course equivalencies  
RCW 28A.230.120 High school diplomas — Issuance — Option to receive final transcripts — Notice  
RCW 28A.230.122 International baccalaureate diplomas  
RCW 28A.600.300-400 Running start program - Definition  
RCW 28A.635.060 Defacing or injuring school property — Liability of pupil, parent or guardian — Withholding grades, diploma, or transcripts — Suspension and restitution — Voluntary work program as alternative — Rights protected  
WAC 180-51 High school graduation requirements



WAC 392-121-182 Alternative learning  
experience requirements  
WAC 392-169 Special service programs -  
Running start program  
WAC 392-348 Secondary education  
WAC 392-410 Courses of study and  
equivalencies  
WAC 392-410-350 Seal of Biliteracy  
WAC 392-415-070 Mandatory high school  
transcript contents

Management Resources:

2015 - October Issue  
2014 - December Issue  
2013 - September Issue  
2012 - April Issue  
2011 - October Issue  
2010 - June Issue  
2009 - April Issue  
2009 - February Issue  
Policy News, August 2007 Graduation  
Requirements Modified by Legislature  
Policy News, October 2004 Graduation  
Requirements: High School and Beyond Plans  
Policy News, February 2004 High School  
Graduation Requirements  
Policy News, December 2000 2004 High  
School Graduation Requirements Adopted  
Policy News, April 1999 Variations  
Complicate College Credit Equivalencies

Adoption Date: August 18, 2016