

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION FOR FOSTER YOUTH



AB 167/216 GRADUATION: OVERVIEW OF THE LAW

Foster youth who transfer high schools after their second year may graduate by completing minimum state graduation requirements if, at the time of transfer, they cannot reasonably complete additional local school district requirements within four years of high school. Cal. Educ. Code § 51225.1.

- AB 167/216 graduation applies to any youth in foster care or on probation who is either removed from their home or subject to a petition under Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 300, 309, or 602.
- The new school district must determine whether a foster youth is eligible to graduate under AB 167/216 within 30 days of the youth's transfer into a new school. This determination, as well as the impact of AB 167/216 graduation on admissions to a four-year university, must be provided in writing to the youth, their education rights holder, and social worker.
- Once a youth is found eligible for AB 167/216 graduation, no school district may revoke the youth's right to graduate under AB 167/216, even if the youth leaves foster care or transfers to another school district.
- If a youth is found ineligible for AB 167/216 graduation when they transfer schools, they can request that the school reconsider the decision at any later time.
- In order to graduate under AB 167/216, all youth must pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE), unless they are eligible for a special education waiver.
- If a youth can reasonably complete all additional local school district graduation requirements during a fifth year of high school, the school district must inform the youth of their right to remain in high school and make arrangements to allow for continued enrollment in the local comprehensive school of residence, if the education rights holder determines that is in the youth's best interest.
- Only the education rights holder or a youth who is over 18 years old can determine whether graduating under AB 167/216 is in the youth's best interest. An education rights holder can change their decision of whether or not to graduate under AB 167/216 at any time prior to the youth's graduation.

AB 167/216 GRADUATION: OVERVIEW OF PROCEDURES

STEP 1

Upon receiving notification of a foster youth's enrollment in your school, request all education records from the youth's previous schools, including all transcripts. Review transcripts to ensure that all earned credits, including partial credits, are included.

****If it appears that a student was not properly awarded partial credits by a previous school based on enrollment dates, attendance records, and check-out grades, send a request for partial credits to that school. You may use California's Partial Credit Model Policy Implementation Manual to complete this request. If you have any difficulties obtaining partial credits for the youth, contact your school district's AB 490 Liaison for assistance.**

STEP 2

Review transcripts to determine whether the youth has completed their second year of high school.

****This determination may be based on the youth's length of enrollment or the number of credits earned, whichever makes the youth more likely to qualify for AB 167/216 graduation. Cal. Educ. Code § 51225.1(c).**

STEP 3

Conduct a graduation analysis according to your school district's graduation requirements to determine whether the youth can reasonably complete additional local graduation requirements within four years of high school. If the youth cannot reasonably complete these additional requirements, conduct a secondary credit analysis using state graduation requirements to determine which classes the youth must still complete to graduate under AB 167/216.

STEP 4

Within 30 days of the youth's enrollment, provide written notification of the youth's eligibility for AB 167/216 graduation to the youth, their education rights holder, and social worker.

****If the youth qualifies for AB 167/216 graduation, provide information in writing regarding: (1) the youth's right to utilize AB 167/216 graduation or remain in high school for a fifth year, depending on the education rights holder's decision of what is in the youth's best interest; and (2) the impact of AB 167/216 graduation on college admissions (i.e., that a youth likely will not have completed the courses required for admission to 4 year universities).**

STEP 5

If a youth's education rights holder decides it is in the youth's best interest to graduate under AB 167/216, ensure the youth is enrolled in the appropriate courses to complete statewide graduation requirements.



AB 167/216 GRADUATION: COMPARE REQUIREMENTS

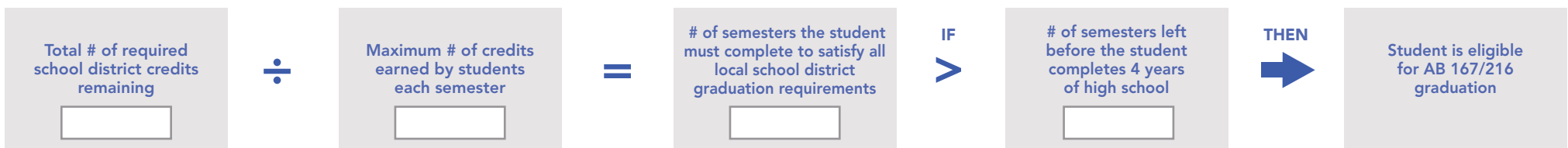
AB 167/216 STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	EXAMPLE OF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
English (30 credits)	English (40 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 9 (10 credits) • English 10 (10 credits) • American Literature (10 credits) • Contemporary Composition (10 credits)
Math (20 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra 1 (10 credits) • Other Math (10 credits) 	Math (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra 1 (10 credits) • Geometry (10 credits) • Algebra 2 (10 credits)
Science (20 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Science (10 credits) • Physical Science (10 credits) 	Science (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological Science (10 credits) • Physical Science (10 credits) • Lab Science (10 credits)
Social Studies (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History (10 credits) • US History (10 credits) • American Government/Civics (5 credits) • Economics (5 credits) 	Social Studies (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History (10 credits) • US History (10 credits) • Principles of American Democracy (5 credits) • Economics (5 credits)
Visual or Performing Arts, Foreign Language, or Career Technical Education (10 credits)	Foreign Language (20 credits)
	Visual & Performing Arts (10 credits)
Physical Education (20 credits)	Physical Education (20 credits)
Electives (0 credits)	Electives (50 credits)
TOTAL: 130 Credits	TOTAL: 230 credits

AB 167/216 GRADUATION: ELIGIBILITY & CREDIT CHECKIST

Student Name: _____ DOB: _____ Current Grade: _____ Current Semester: _____ Current School/District: _____

SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	COURSES COMPLETED/ CREDITS EARNED	DISTRICT COURSES/ CREDITS REMAINING	AB 167/216 COURSES/ CREDITS REMAINING
English (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits)			
Math (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits)			
Science (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits)			
Social Studies (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits) • _____ (_____ credits)			
Visual & Performing Arts (_____ credits)			
Physical Education (_____ credits)			
Applied Technology (_____ credits)			
Foreign Language (_____ credits)			
Electives (_____ credits)			
Total Credits: <input type="text"/>	Credits Completed: <input type="text"/>	Credits Remaining: <input type="text"/>	AB 167/216 Credits Remaining: <input type="text"/>

Eligibility Calculation



AB 167/216 GRADUATION: ELIGIBILITY & CREDIT CHECKIST SAMPLE

Student Name: Melissa Jones DOB: 3/1/96 Current Grade: 11 Current Semester: Spring Current School/District: Palm HS / Albany Unified

SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	COURSES COMPLETED/ CREDITS EARNED	DISTRICT COURSES/ CREDITS REMAINING	AB 167/216 COURSES/ CREDITS REMAINING
English (40 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English 9 (10 credits) English 10 (10 credits) Contemporary Composition (10 credits) English elective (10 credits) 	English 9A: 5 credits English 10B: 5 credits Contemporary Composition: 5 credits	English 9B: 5 credits English 10A: 5 credits Contemporary Composition: 5 credits English Elective: 10 credits	English 9B: 5 credits English 10A: 5 credits Contemporary Composition: 5 credits
Math (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra 1 (10 credits) Geometry (10 credits) Algebra 2 (10 credits) 	Algebra 1B: 5 credits Geometry: 10 credits	Algebra 1A: 5 credits Algebra 2: 10 credits	Algebra 1A: 5 credits
Science (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Science (10 credits) Physical Science (10 credits) Lab Science (10 credits) 	Biology: 10 credits	Physical Science: 10 credits Lab Science: 10 credits	Physical Science: 10 credits
Social Studies (30 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World History (10 credits) US History (10 credits) Principles of American Democracy (5 credits) Economics (5 credits) 	World History B: 5 credits US History A: 5 credits	World History A: 5 credits US History B: 5 credits Principles of American Democracy: 5 credits Economics: 5 credits	World History A: 5 credits US History B: 5 credits Principles of American Democracy: 5 credits Economics: 5 credits
Visual & Performing Arts (10 credits)	None	Visual & Performing Arts: 10 credits	Visual & Performing Arts: 10 credits
Physical Education (20 credits)	PE: 10 credits	PE: 10 credits	PE: 10 credits
Applied Technology (10 credits)	Applied Technology: 5 credits	Applied Technology: 5 credits	
Foreign Language (20 credits)	None	Foreign Language: 20 credits	
Electives (50 credits)	Electives: 20 credits	Electives: 30 credits	
Total Credits: 240	Credits Completed: 85	Credits Remaining: 155	AB 167/216 Credits Remaining: 70

Eligibility Calculation

