

## STUDENTS

### Graduation Requirements/Diplomas/Certificates

#### A. Graduation Requirements

The requirements for graduation from high school shall be those established by the Virginia General Assembly and Virginia Board of Education regulations as cited in the legal reference to this Policy, and those identified by the School Board.

#### B. Locally Awarded Verified Credits (LAVC)

The requirements for awarding ~~local verified credits~~ LAVCs in English, mathematics, science and history/social science shall be those established by the Virginia Board of Education Guidelines for Local School Boards to Award Verified Credits ~~for the Standard Diploma to Transition Students~~. A procedure will be set forth in regulation by the Superintendent for general eligibility, specific criteria, and guidelines by subject area, general provisions, and process for levels of appeals.

~~Beginning with school year 2012-2013, c~~Certain protected groups [students with disabilities who have Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or 504 plans] who meet specific credit accommodations criteria are not subject to the limit on the number of LAVCs eligible to apply for a local verified credit in reading, writing, and/or math

For the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years, the requirements for awarding LAVCs in English, mathematics, science and history/social science shall follow emergency guidelines as established by the Virginia Board of Education. These emergency guidelines will continue to apply to any high school credit-bearing course eligible for verified credit in which a student was enrolled in spring 2020, summer 2020 or during the 2020-21 school year and shall remain as part of the local school board policy for the duration of its impact on any affected student's graduation.

#### C. Certificates and Diplomas

1. Students who complete a prescribed course of study as defined by the School Board but who do not qualify for a diploma shall be awarded a Certificate of Program Completion by the School Board.

Certain protected groups [students with disabilities who have Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or 504 plans] who meet specific credit accommodations criteria are not subject to the limit on the number of LAVCs. As part of a student's annual IEP review, IEP teams may discuss credit accommodations for which students with disabilities may be eligible.

~~Students identified as having a disability who complete the requirements of their IEPs or 504 plans but have not earned the required verified credits for a standard or advanced studies diploma shall be awarded special applied studies diplomas by the School Board.~~

~~2.~~

~~3.2.~~ Students who have completed a prescribed course of study as defined by the School Board shall be awarded certificates by the School Board if they do not qualify for diplomas.

#### **D. Standard Unit of Credit**

The School Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop a regulation for awarding a standard unit of credit in lieu of 70/140 clock hours of instruction provided that such regulation meets the requirements of Virginia Board of Education Regulation 8\_VAC\_20-131-110, as amended.

*Editor's Note*

*~~For implementation procedures, see School Board Regulation 5-30.3.~~*

*~~For certificates, and Parts A and B of the policy see School Board Regulation 5-30.1.~~*

#### **Legal Reference**

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:4, as amended. Standard 4. Student achievement and graduation requirements.

Virginia Board of Education 8\_VAC\_20-131, *et seq.*, as amended. Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia.

#### **Related Links**

School Board **Regulation 5-30.3**

School Board **Regulation 5-30.1**

Adopted by School Board: October 21, 1969

Amended by School Board: May 19, 1970

Amended by School Board: January 18, 1972

Amended by School Board: August 4, 1983

Amended by School Board: February 21, 1984

Amended by School Board: July 1, 1987

Amended by School Board: August 21, 1990

Amended by School Board: July 16, 1991  
Amended by School Board: June 15, 1993 (Effective August 14, 1993)  
Amended by School Board: October 6, 1998  
Amended by School Board: July 15, 2003  
Amended by School Board: April 4, 2006  
Amended by School Board: August 2, 2011  
Amended by School Board: March 5, 2013  
Amended by School Board: September 4, 2013  
Amended by School Board: August 19, 2014  
Amended by School Board: September 1, 2015  
Amended by School Board: February 27, 2018  
Amended by School Board: November 9, 2021

APPROVED AS TO  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

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