

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION POLICY

	20 Credit Path	26 Credit Path	28 Credit Path
	State Standard	GWRSD Standard	Honors Distinction
Arts Education	½ credit	½ credit	1 credit
English	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 2 courses at Honors/AP level in junior and/or senior years
Health Education	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
Information & Communication Technologies	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
Mathematics	3 credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra (1 credit) 	3 credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra (1 credit) 	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 2 courses at Honors/AP level in junior and/or senior years, through Pre-Calculus
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be obtained through an Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) 	1 credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be obtained through an Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO)
Science	2 credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Science (1 credit) • Biological Science (1 credit) 	3 credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Science (1 credit) • Biological Science (1 credit) 	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 2 courses at Honors/AP level in junior and/or senior years, through Chemistry or Physics
Social Studies	2½ credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History (½ credit) • US/NH Gov (½ credit) • US/NH History (1 credit) 	3½ credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History (½ credit) • US/NH Gov (½ credit) • US/NH History (1 credit) 	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 2 courses at Honors/AP level in junior and/or senior years, including Global Citizenship, World AP, or “isms”
World Language			2 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both credits must be earned at high school level
Restricted Electives*		4 credits, earned from at least two of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts Education • World Languages • Practical Arts • Vocational Education 	
Open Electives*	6 credits	6 credits	7 credits

* Restricted electives are required by the district to earn the GWRSD Standard diploma. Open electives are any elective offered at Kingswood Regional High School or Lakes Region Technology Center.

Following consultation with parents/guardians (if under the age of 18), students may be eligible to apply in their Junior or Senior year (after two years of study or at the Superintendent's discretion) for alternative diploma pathways that meet or exceed the state diploma requirements.

Passage of Civics Exam

The district will develop a competency assessment of United States government and civics, consistent with pertinent and applicable law. This assessment will be administered to students as part of the high school course in history and government of the United States and New Hampshire. Students must attain a passing grade on this assessment to be eligible to receive a high school diploma or other graduation certificate.

Effective for students graduating after June 30, 2023, the district will also administer the 128 question civics (history and government) naturalization examination developed by the 2020 United States Citizen and Immigration Services ("U.S. Citizenship Test"). This exam may be modified for a student with a disability in accordance with the student's individualized education program. Students must earn a grade of 70 percent or better to be eligible to receive a high school diploma or other graduation certificate.

Under RSA 189:11, II, the Superintendent will submit the composite results of either the locally developed civics competency assessment or the U.S. Citizenship Test to the N.H. Department of Education.

Federal Student Aid Application

Effective for students graduating in 2024, as a requirement for receiving a high school diploma, each student who is at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, or the parent/guardian of such a student who is under 18 years of age, shall either:

1. File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Department of Education; or
2. File a waiver on a form created by the N.H. Board of Education with the District indicating that the parent/guardian or, if applicable, the student, understands what FAFSA is and has chosen not to file an application.

The District shall provide to each student and, if applicable, the parent/guardian, any support or assistance necessary to comply with the requirement above.

Legal References:

RSA 189: 11, II
ED 306.27

Reaffirmed: 9/13/93, 7/15/96)
Revised: 6/19/06, 5/18/09, 2/16/15, 6/5/2023