

August 21, 2023

Prospective Early/Winter Graduate,

This letter is in response to your request to graduate at the end of Semester 1, December 21, 2023. Your schedule has been arranged to include your remaining high school diploma requirements. In addition to meeting diploma requirements, the state of South Carolina wants graduates to be College & Career Ready (CCR), which can be earned through several avenues and detailed criteria, which is included below.

Please know Winter Graduation (December 21, 2023) is contingent on you becoming Career & College Ready and earning all required credits towards your high school diploma.

Please also know that Winter Graduates will NEVER have a **class rank**. Winter graduates are not ranked along with their peers who graduate in June. If you are considering scholarships where having a class rank might help you earn more money for future plans, you could lose this opportunity by becoming a Winter Graduate. An example would be the State of South Carolina's Life Scholarship and/or Palmetto Fellows.

Winter graduates can participate in graduation activities with their classmates in June, should they choose, and are responsible for staying abreast of all information given to seniors in the spring semester. Winter graduates are unable to participate in clubs/athletics after graduating in December, they forfeit their parking space and are not permitted on campus between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

How to become Career & College Ready: HHIHS will offer the WIN exam for 4th year students who did not have the opportunity to test last year. Students will also have an opportunity to take the ASVAB military aptitude test. Regardless of your future plans, taking either test and scoring the minimum requirements will ensure you are CCR and able to graduate in December. Please look for correspondence from HHIHS Administration about testing opportunities.

Students can also register for the SAT and ACT exams on a national testing date to secure CCR score requirements. If a student earns the score listed below, they will have met CCR criteria. Visit act.org or collegeboard.org for more information on testing dates, locations and registration. Remember to register early to ensure you have the necessary scores on time.

How to earn College & Career Ready (CCR) Status: Students only need to meet **one** criteria below to be considered CCR

Earn a 20 on the ACT	Earn a Platinum, Gold or Silver Certificate on the WIN test
Earn a 1020 on the SAT	Be a CTE completer with an Industrial Certification
Earn a 3 on an AP Exam	Earn a 31 on the ASVAB
Earn a 4 on an IB Exam	Earn 4 Dual Enrollment college credits, earning a C or higher in each course

Subject	Credits Required
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	3
Other Social Studies	1
US Government	½
Economics & Personal Finance	½
US History	1
Physical Education or ROTC/health	1
Foreign Language or CTE course	1
Computer Science	1
Electives	7
TOTAL	24 credits

You will see a Winter Graduation application attached to this message. Please complete the application and submit it to your School Counselor as soon as possible. Please write everything carefully and legibly.

We look forward to receiving your completed application as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

The HHIHS School Counseling Department