



Birmingham Community Charter High School

Board Policy 70 – Courses Meeting California State Minimum Graduation Requirements

Purpose(s):

This policy defines the courses that fulfill the California Department of Education (CDE) graduation requirements for each subject area.

Issuer:

Isaac Alatorre, Director

Board Approved:

September 28, 2024

Federal / State / laws, regulations, bulletins and/or memorandums:

EC Section 51225.1
EC Section 51225.2
EC Section 51225.3
EC Section 60811.8
EC Section 49701
AB 216
AB 1806
AB 2121
AB 2306
AB 714
AB 365
BP 63

Attachments:

BACKGROUND:

Students that meet the specific criteria outlined in the following Assembly Bills:

- AB 216 – Foster Care Youth
- AB1806 – Homeless Children and Youth
- AB 2121 – Migratory Children and Newcomer Pupils as defined by AB 714
- AB 2306 – Juvenile Court Students
- AB 365 – Children of Military Families

shall be exempt from Local Educational Agency (LEA) graduation requirements and will only need to complete the minimum graduation requirements set by the California Department of Education (CDE). The CDE allows the BCCHS Board of Directors to define the course requirement for each subject area.

CDE Graduation Requirements		
Subject Area	Courses	Credits
Social Science	3 Yearlong Courses: World History AB US History AB Principles Am Democracy Economics	30 credits
English	3 Yearlong Courses	30 credits
Math	2 Yearlong Courses (including 1 Year of Algebra)	20 credits
Science	2 Yearlong Courses: 1 Biological Science AB 1 Physical Science AB	20 credits
VPA LOTE CTE	1 Yearlong Course in VPA, LOTE or CTE	10 credits
PE	2 Yearlong Courses	20 credits
Ethnic Studies	1 Semester (beginning with the Graduating Class of 2030)	5 credits
TOTAL CREDITS		130/135 credits

MAJOR CHANGES:

- This policy defines the courses that meet the California State minimum graduation requirements for each subject area.
- This policy outlines the criteria for each Assembly Bill that allows students to be exempt from the LEA graduation requirements.



SUBJECT AREAS:

- History & Social Science (30 Credits)
 - 10 credits of World History or its equivalent
 - 10 credits of US History or its equivalent
 - 5 credits of Civics & Government or its equivalent
 - 5 credits of Economics or its equivalent

- English (30 Credits)
 - 30 credits of UC/CSU "B" approved English courses
e.g. English 9AB + English 10AB + ELD 11AB
OR
 - 30 credits of UC/CSU "G-English" approved English class
e.g. Creative Writing AB + Journalism 1AB + Journalism 2AB
OR
 - 30 credits of English courses that may not have been approved by UC/CSU but are aligned to the California content standards
OR
 - Any combination of credits from English courses that are UC/CSU "B" approved, "G" approved, and/or not UC/CSU approved

- Mathematics (20 Credits)
 - 10 credits of Algebra 1 or any two semesters of higher-level Math beyond Algebra 1
 - 10 credits of an elective Math course

- Science (20 Credits)
 - 10 credits of Biological Science courses in the same discipline
AND
 - 10 credits of Physical Science courses in the same discipline
OR
 - 20 credits of Interdisciplinary/Integrated Science courses.
 - These courses can fulfill either the Biological or Physical Science requirements.
 - A semester of an interdisciplinary/integrated course may also be combined with a Biological or Physical science course to meet the respective requirement.

- Visual & Performing Arts (VPA), Career Technical Education (CTE), Language Other Than English (LOTE) (10 Credits)
 - 10 credits of VPA in any discipline (e.g. Drawing A + Choir A)
OR
 - 10 credits of CTE in any discipline (e.g. Intro to Business A + Filmmaking 1A)
OR
 - 10 credits of LOTE in the same language (e.g. Spanish 1A + Spanish 2A)

- Ethnic Studies (5 Credits) – *commencing with students graduating in the 2029-30 school year*
 - 5 credits of Ethnic Studies or its equivalent in any subject area. A course used to fulfill this requirement may not be used to satisfy any other subject area requirement

- Physical Education (20 Credits)
 - 20 credits of Physical Education or its equivalent.

AB 216 – Foster Youth

Pertaining to graduation requirements, foster youth that are credit deficient and transfer schools after their second year of high school are eligible to graduate under AB 216 by completing the California State minimum graduation requirements, unless the LEA determines that the student is reasonably able to meet the LEA's graduation requirements by the end of their fourth year. The LEA is obligated to inform the foster youth and their Educational Rights Holder (ERH) of this option within 30 days of the student's transfer. The LEA may not require a foster youth to retake a course that the student has already passed. The LEA may not prevent the



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student from completing a course the meets the eligibility requirements for admission to a California State University or a University of California. Eligible students shall not be required to accept the exemption. An LEA shall not require a student to transfer schools to qualify the student for this exemption.

Foster youth have the following rights under California law:

- The right to remain in their school of “origin”
- The right to immediate enrollment in their new school, even if required enrollment documentation is missing
- The right to receive partial credits for work completed
- The right to remain in high school for a fifth year to complete LEA or California State graduation requirements
- The right to access school records after age 16 or upon completing 10th grade
- The right to remain enrolled through the fourth year of high school, even if they meet the California State graduation requirements before the end of that year.

Once a student is deemed eligible for this option, their eligibility remains in effect even if they transfer schools again, return to their biological parents, or their court case is closed. The LEA must discuss with the student and ERH:

- How graduating with the California State minimum requirements may affect admission to post-secondary schools
- How staying in high school for a fifth year could impact admission to post-secondary institutions
- Transfer opportunities available through California community colleges

AB 1806 – Homeless Children and Youth

Pertaining to graduation requirements, homeless youth that are credit deficient and transfer schools after their second year of high school are eligible to graduate under AB 1806 by completing the California State minimum graduation requirements, unless the LEA determines that the student is reasonably able to meet the LEA’s graduation requirements by the end of their fourth year. The LEA is obligated to inform the homeless youth, their Educational Rights Holder (ERH), and the LEA Homeless Liaison of this option within 30 days of the student’s transfer.

- The LEA must inform the student if they are reasonably able to complete the LEA’s graduation requirements within the student’s 5th year of high school.
- The LEA may not require a student to retake a course that the student has already passed.
- The LEA may not prevent the student from completing a course the meets the eligibility requirements for admission to a California State University or a University of California.
- The LEA may use the number of credits completed at the time of transfer or the length of enrollment (which ever qualifies the student for the exemption) to determine the student’s 3rd or 4th year status.
- The LEA may not require eligible homeless youth to accept the exemption.
- Once a student qualifies for the exemption under AB 1806, LEAs cannot not revoke it.
- Students have the right to partial credits for work completed.
- Eligible students shall not be required to accept the exemption or be denied enrollment in courses necessary to attend an institution of higher education.
- Students have the right to remain enrolled through the fourth year of high school, even if they meet the California State graduation requirements before the end of that year.
- An LEA shall not require a student to transfer schools to qualify the student for this exemption.

The LEA must discuss with the student and ERH:

- How graduating with the California State minimum requirements may affect admission to post-secondary schools
- How staying in high school for a fifth year could impact admission to post-secondary institutions
- Transfer opportunities available through California community colleges

AB2121 – Migratory Children and Newcomer Pupils

Under AB 2121, Newcomer pupils that are in their third or fourth year of high school are exempt from additional Local Educational Agency (LEA) graduation requirements and may complete the minimum CDE Graduation Requirements, unless the LEA determines that the student is reasonably able to complete the



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LEAs graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the student's fourth year of high school. The LEA is obligated to inform the student and their ERH of this option within 30 days of the student's transfer.

Assembly Bill (AB) 714 amended Education Code sections 51225.1 and 51225.2 by changing the terminology from "student participating in a newcomer program" to "newcomer pupils". It defines a newcomer pupil as "individuals 3 through 21 years of age who were not born in any state and have not been attending one or more schools in any one or more states for more than 3 full academic years."

This bill requires and/or authorizes LEAs to:

- Accept partial or full credit for coursework completed while attending a public school, juvenile court school, charter school, a school outside the United States, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school, as applicable
- Enroll students in programs designed to address the transitional needs of newcomer students, with a primary focus on developing English language proficiency
- Allow students to remain a 5th year to complete LEA's graduation requirements
- Inform students and their ERH about how graduating with the California State minimum requirements may affect admission to post-secondary schools
- Inform students and their ERH about how staying in high school for a fifth year could impact admission to post-secondary institutions
- Provide information about transfer opportunities available through California community colleges
- Use the number of credits earned up to the date of transfer, the length of enrollment, or, for students with significant gaps in attendance, the student's age compared to the average age of peers in their third or fourth year of high school (whichever qualifies the pupil for the exemption) to determine the student's classification as a 3rd or 4th-year high school student
- Inform eligible students and their ERH of this exemption within 30 days of the student's transfer
- Eligible students shall not be required to accept the exemption or be denied enrollment in courses necessary to attend an institution of higher education
- An LEA shall not require a student to transfer schools to qualify the student for this exemption

Once a student qualifies for the exemption under AB2121/AB 714, the exemption will continue even if the student no longer meets the definitions of "migratory child" or "newcomer pupil".

Newcomer pupils may include, but are not limited to, English learners, immigrant children and youth, asylees, refugees, unaccompanied youth, undocumented youth, migratory students, students who may have experienced Limited/Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE/SIFE) and youth identified by the local educational agencies.

AB 2306 – Juvenile Court Students

Pertaining to graduation requirements, juvenile court students that are credit deficient and transfer schools after their second year of high school are eligible to graduate under AB 2306 by completing the California State minimum graduation requirements, unless the LEA determines that the student is reasonably able to meet the LEA's graduation requirements by the end of their fourth year. The LEA is obligated to inform the student, their Educational Rights Holder (ERH) and their social worker or probation officer of this option within 30 days of the student's transfer.

- The LEA must inform the student if they are reasonably able to complete the LEA's graduation requirements within the student's 5th year of high school.
- The LEA may not require a student to retake a course that the student has already passed.
- The LEA may not prevent the student from completing a course that meets the eligibility requirements for admission to a California State University or a University of California.
- The LEA may use the number of credits completed at the time of transfer or the length of enrollment (which ever qualifies the student for the exemption) to determine the student's 3rd or 4th year status.
- The LEA may not require eligible juvenile court youth to accept the exemption.
- Once a student qualifies for the exemption under AB 2306, LEAs cannot not revoke it.
- Students have the right to partial credits for work completed.
- Eligible students shall not be required to accept the exemption or be denied enrollment in courses necessary to attend an institution of higher education.



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- Students have the right to remain enrolled through the fourth year of high school, even if they meet the California State graduation requirements before the end of that year.
- An LEA shall not require a student to transfer schools to qualify the student for this exemption.

The LEA must discuss with the student and ERH:

- How graduating with the California State minimum requirements may affect admission to post-secondary schools
- How staying in high school for a fifth year could impact admission to post-secondary institutions
- Transfer opportunities available through California community colleges

AB 365 – Children of Military Families

Education Code (EC) Section 49701 defines children of military families. The purpose of this EC is to “remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of the frequent moves and deployment of their parents.”

Pertaining to graduation requirements, children of military families that are credit deficient and transfer schools after their second year of high school are eligible to graduate under AB 365 by completing the California State minimum graduation requirements, unless the LEA determines that the student is reasonably able to meet the LEA’s graduation requirements by the end of their fourth year. The LEA is obligated to inform the students and their Educational Rights Holder (ERH) of this option within 30 days of the student’s transfer. The LEA may not require a student to retake a course that the student has already passed. The LEA may not prevent the student from completing a course that meets the eligibility requirements for admission to a California State University or a University of California. Eligible students shall not be required to accept the exemption. An LEA shall not require a student to transfer schools to qualify the student for this exemption.

Children of military families have:

- The right to remain in their school of “origin”
- The right to immediate enrollment in their new school, even if required enrollment documentation is missing
- The right to receive partial credits for work completed
- The right to remain in high school for a fifth year to complete LEA or California State graduation requirements
- The right to enrollment, educational programs, and participation in extracurricular, athletic and social activities
- The right to remain enrolled through the fourth year of high school, even if they meet the California State graduation requirements before the end of that year.

Once a student is deemed eligible for this option, their eligibility remains in effect even if they transfer schools. The LEA must discuss with the student and ERH:

- How graduating with the California State minimum requirements may affect admission to post-secondary schools
- How staying in high school for a fifth year could impact admission to post-secondary institutions
- Transfer opportunities available through California community colleges



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Attachment A

AB 2121/216/1806/104/2306/365 Graduation Verification

Student Name:		Enter Date:
DOB:	School:	30-day Deadline:
Permanent ID#:	Current Grade:	Graduation Year:
Specialized Program: <input type="radio"/> ELL <input type="radio"/> Section 504 <input type="radio"/> SDC <input type="radio"/> RSP <input type="radio"/> Other (<i>specify</i>):		
Eligibility: <input type="radio"/> AB216 <input type="radio"/> AB1806 <input type="radio"/> AB2121 <input type="radio"/> AB104 <input type="radio"/> AB2306 <input type="radio"/> AB365		

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT HISTORY

Dates		School Enrollment		
From	To	School	District	Grade

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

AB 216/AB1806/AB2121 COURSE REQUIREMENTS		Semester Credits Earned		Course Title	AB 216/1806/2121 COURSE(S) REMAINING/NOTES
		1	2		
English	30				
English					
English					
Algebra 1	20				
Geometry (OR MATH ELECTIVE: AB216)					
Science (Biological)	20				
Science (Physical)					
World History	30				
US History					
US Government					
Economics/Civic					
Physical Education 1	20				
Physical Education 2					
Visual/Performing Arts	10*				
Career Technical Education					
Foreign Language 1					
Ethnic Studies (2030)	5^				
Total Credits:	130/135^				

Future Plans: Work Adult School Community College State College UC Job Corps
 Military Vocational/Trade School Other: _____

AB 216/1806/2121/2306/365 EXEMPTION GRANTED: YES NO RE-EVALUATION

Reason: _____

Academic Counselor: _____ Date: _____

This is to inform you, that graduation through meeting the basic California High School diploma requirements WILL NOT meet eligibility requirements for admission to a four-year university. You are encouraged to contact your two-year community college, career technical or military advisory/representative to explore additional post-secondary options.

- Exemption not accepted Remain at BCCHS for 5th year to complete BCCHS graduation requirements
 Provided information about transfer opportunities available through California community colleges Exemption accepted

 Student Signature Date **Educational Rights Holder Signature Date

 BCCHS Homeless & Foster Youth Liaison Signature Date Academic Counselor Signature Date

* Must be ONE year in the same subject area (VPA, CTE or LOTE) ** Not required for an Unaccompanied Youth or an 18 year old Student ^Beginning SY 2029-30