

DIPLOMA AND CREDENTIAL OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Board of Education is committed to supporting all students so they are college- and career-ready upon graduation. The Committee on Special Education (CSE), which includes parents/guardians, will work with students with disabilities to attain the appropriate diploma or credential based on their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Regents Diploma or Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation

Students with disabilities are encouraged to work toward the completion of requirements for a Regents diploma or Regents diploma with an advanced designation, as established by New York State and the Board.

Local Diploma

Students with disabilities may work toward completion of the requirements of a local diploma. The local diploma may be earned by meeting the standards set forth in state regulations.

Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential

Students with disabilities, may earn a New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOS) along with a high school diploma, or as a separate credential without a diploma, provided that the student met the criteria for the CDOS credential **and** attended at least twelve (12) years of school, excluding kindergarten, or has received a substantially equivalent education elsewhere, or at the end of the school year in which the student attains the age of 21. The CDOS credential recognizes a student's work-readiness skills by meeting standards set forth in state regulations.

Receipt of a CDOS credential without a high school diploma does not preclude the student's eligibility to continue to work towards the completion of the requirements of a local diploma. A student continues to be eligible to receive a free appropriate publication (FAPE) until the end of the school year in which they turn twenty-one (21). The CDOS credential recognizes the student possesses the knowledge and work-readiness skills necessary for entry-level employment.

Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential

A student who meets the state definition of a student with severe disabilities, who has taken the State assessment for students with severe disabilities, may be issued a skills and achievement commencement credential pursuant to the requirements of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Diploma and Credential Options for Students with Disabilities (Cont'd)Continued Right to Educational Services

If a student receiving a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential or a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential is less than twenty-one years of age, the credential shall be accompanied by a written assurance of the student's continued right to attend public school until the end of the school year in which the student reaches the age of twenty-one or until the student has earned a high school diploma, whichever is earlier.

Cross-ref: 5122, The Education of Students with Handicapping Conditions
5127, Senior High School Diplomas and Credentials

Ref: 8 NYCRR §§100.1; 100.5; 100.6; 100.9

Adoption date:

August 24, 2015

Policy Revised:

May 23, 2022