HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to satisfy the high school graduation requirements within Ansonia Public Schools, a student must have satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study; demonstrated proficiency in basic skills identified by the Ansonia Board of Education (the "Board"); satisfied the legally mandated number and distribution of credits required to graduate from high school; and if graduating in 2027 and thereafter, satisfied the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ("FAFSA") requirements detailed below.

Required Coursework and Credits for Graduation

The Board conforms with state law regarding credits for graduation from high school.

Classes Graduating in 2025 and 2026, the following 25 credits are required.

Humanities	9 Credits	4 Credits in English 3 Credits in Social Studies to include 1 Credit of US History and.5 Credit Civics 2 Credits of Humanities electives
Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)	9 Credits	4 Credits in Math 3 Credits in Science 2 Credits in STEM electives
Wellness	2 Credits	1 Credit Physical Education 1 Credit Personal Health
World Language	1 Credit	
Life Skills	1 Credit	.5 Credits Financial Literacy .5 Credits Computer Literacy
Community Service	.25 Credits	
Other Additional Electives	1.75 Credits	

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Wellness	2 Credits	1 Credit Physical Education 1 Credit Personal Health
World Language	1 Credit	
Life Skills	1 Credit	.5 Credits Financial Literacy .5 Credits Computer Literacy
Community Service	.25 Credits	
Personal Financial Management and Financial Literacy	.5 Credits	
Other Additional Electives	1.75 Credits	

A student who presents written documentation from a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant, stating that participation in physical education is not advisable because of the physical condition of the student, shall be excused from the physical education requirement. In such a case, another subject must be substituted.

Any student who is deaf or hearing impaired may be exempted from any world language graduation requirement if the student's parent or guardian requests such exemption in writing. Students may also be exempted from this requirement through PPT.

A credit is defined as the equivalent of one forty (40) minute class period for each school day of a school year. One-half credit is granted for a course with a forty (40) minute class period each school day for one semester or ninety (90) days.

Only courses taken in grades nine to twelve inclusive, and that are in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the State Board of Education, shall satisfy the above graduation requirements, except that the Board will grant a student credit:

High school graduation credit will be granted to students upon the successful demonstration of mastery of subject matter achieved through educational experiences and opportunities that provide flexible and multiple pathways to learning, including:

- Cross-curricular graduation requirements,
- Career and technical education,
- Virtual learning,
- Work-based learning,

- Service learning,
- Dual enrollment and early college
- Courses taken in middle school, and
- Internships and student-designed independent studies;

Provided that such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with such state-wide subject matter content standards.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students for courses successfully completed with a [*B*] or better in grades seven and eight so long as the primary focus of the course corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement at the high school level. Grades earned in middle school courses will not be factored into a student's GPA.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students who pass a subject area proficiency examination identified and approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Education, regardless of the number of hours a student spent in an instructional setting authorized by the Board learning the subject matter. Grade earned will not be factored into a student's GPA.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students for coursework completed during the school year or summer months at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this policy. Grade earned will not be factored into a student's GPA.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students upon the successful completion of on-line coursework in accordance with the Board's on-line coursework policy. Grade earned will not be factored into a student's GPA.

A student may be granted one-half credit for documented community service provided it is supervised by an administrator or teacher and consists of not less than fifty (50) hours of actual service that may be performed at times when school is not regularly in session and not less than ten (10) hours of related classroom instruction.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students upon the successful completion of a credit recovery program approved by the Commissioner of Education. Grade earned will not be factored into a student's GPA.

<u>Demonstration of Proficiency in Basic Skills</u>

<u>BASIC SKILLS STANDARDS</u>

I. LITERACY: Reading Writing, and Editing: The AHS student demonstrates the ability to read and write proficiently when accessing, processing and communicating information.

II. NUMERACY: The AHS student demonstrates the ability to complete basic math operations including fractions, percent's, decimals, and exhibits an understanding of basic data interpretation.

III. CIVIC AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: The AHS student demonstrates an awareness of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship by successful completion of the required civics course.

OPPORTUNITIES TO FULFILL BASIC SKILLS STANDARDS REQUIREMENT:
Students will have multiple opportunities to complete the performance assessments.
All freshman and sophomores are required to take the PSAT's.
Juniors will take the PSAT in the fall and SAT in the spring.
Juniors will take Next Generation Science Standards test in the spring.
Seniors who do not meet the standard during their junior year will be required to take SAT during their senior year.

EXEMPTIONS:
Transfers: Student who transfer into Ansonia High School after competing at least three years in another district may be exempted from the performance standards requirement for graduation.
Special Needs Students: Students with special needs may be given an alternative performance task, or they may be exempted if so indicated in their Individual Education Plan.
A student may be exempted from meeting any and all of the basic skills graduation standards at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

<u>FAFSA Requirement for Classes Graduating in 2027 and Thereafter</u>

Students graduating in 2027 and beyond are required to have satisfied one of the following prior to graduation:

(1) completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid ("FAFSA");
(2) for students without legal immigration status, completed and submitted to a public institution of higher education an application for institutional financial aid; or
(3) completed a waiver of completion of the FAFSA and/or financial aid application, as applicable, on a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, signed by the student's parent or guardian or signed by the student if the student is eighteen or older.

On and after March 15 of each school year, a principal, school counselor, teacher, or other certified educator may complete the waiver on behalf of any student who has not satisfied the above requirements if such principal, school counselor, teacher, or other certified educator affirms that they have made a good faith effort to contact the parent/guardian or student about completion of such applications.

<u>Graduation During Period of Expulsion</u>

A student may graduate during an expulsion period if the Board determines that the student has completed the necessary credits required for graduation.

Legal References:

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-14n

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-16b

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221a

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221z

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-223a

Public Act No. 24-45

ADOPTED: _____