

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

	20 Credit Path	26 Credit Path	28 Credit Path
	State Standard	GWRSD Standard	Honors Distinction
Arts Education	½ credit	½ credit	1 credit
Digital Literacy	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
Economics, including Personal Finance	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
English	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits Minimum of 2 courses at Honors/AP level in junior and/or senior years
Health Education	½ credit	½ credit	½ credit
Mathematics *	3 credits, including: Algebra (1 credit)	3 credits, including: Algebra (1 credit)	4 credits Minimum of 2 courses at Honors/AP level in junior and/or senior years
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit May be obtained through an Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO)	1 credit 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**	2 credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History (½ credit) • US & NH Gov/Civics (½ credit) • US/NH History (1 credit) 	3 credits, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History (½ credit) • US & NH Gov/Civics (½ credit) • US/NH History (1 credit) 	3 ½ 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 • Honors level
Electives*	• 6 credits	• 10 credits	• 7 credits

* Each student must take a specific math department course, 9th through 11th grade, and 12th grade a math course or an approved applied math content course.

** Each student must earn a grade of 70% or better on the District-administered U.S. Citizenship Test to be eligible to receive a high school diploma.

In pursuit of its goal of ensuring that all students reach their learning potential and are prepared for post-secondary and career opportunities, students must meet or exceed the District's academic standards, required credits, and additional graduation requirements set forth in this policy to obtain a diploma. High school credits are awarded when a student achieves proficiency relative to a locally defined graduation competency. As described in Board policy **IK**, graduation competencies and credits may be earned through multiple pathways, including extended learning opportunities (ELOs), CTE programs, transfer credits, a dual/concurrent enrollment opportunity, home education programs, remote instruction programs, and other alternative learning opportunities. Additionally, and especially for students entering 9th grade after 2026-27, the required "credits" in the table on page 1, may include competencies that can be earned in more than one subject area.

A. GRADUATION AND DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Recognizing that graduating students have diverse interests and aspirations for life after high school, the District offers its graduating students the following diploma options to best suit the individual student's needs.

State Standard Diploma

The State Standard Diploma is awarded to any student who earns a minimum of **20 credits**, including those listed on page 1 of this policy, and completes all additional requirements in Section C, below.

GWRSD Standard Diploma

The GWRSD Standard Diploma is the standard High School diploma awarded to any student who earns a minimum of **26 credits**, including those listed on page 1 of this policy, and completes all additional requirements in Section C, below.

GWRSD Diploma with Honors Distinction

The GWRSD Diploma with Honors Distinction is awarded to any student who earns a minimum of **28 credits**, including those listed on page 1 of this policy and completes all additional requirements in Section C, below.

B. EARLY GRADUATION

The Board supports early graduation as a means to earn a high school diploma (see Board policy **IKFA**). Parent/guardian involvement for students under the age of 18 is required. The high school Principal shall approve such requests if they determine that all state and local graduation requirements will be met and that early graduation is related to the career and/or educational plans of the student making the request. Upon approval by the high school Principal, the minimum 3 credit requirement per year for enrolled students shall be waived, and the student shall be awarded a high school diploma. Students who complete their graduation requirements early are entitled to fully participate in all graduation-related activities and ceremonies.

C. 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.

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 the U.S. Citizenship Test to the N.H. Education Department.

D. Federal Student Aid Application

The Superintendent shall ensure each student eligible for graduation shall receive information on completing and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Initial information shall be provided no later than November 15th of a student's senior year, and shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Eligibility requirements for student financial aid that may be applied for using the FAFSA;
2. Application timelines and submission deadlines; and
3. The importance of submitting applications early.

The KRHS Counseling program will provide annual financial aid workshops and other opportunities for students and families in order to disseminate the latest information on the financial aid process. The District shall ensure that either a copy of, or the online availability of the FAFSA, is provided or available to each student upon request by that student or upon request of a parent/guardian of that student.

The Superintendent /Superintendent's designee shall ensure that any information shared under this section is handled according to applicable state and federal privacy laws, regulations, and administrative rules.

Legal References:

- RSA 186-C:9 Special Education Required*
RSA 189:11 School Boards, Transportation and Instruction of Pupils
RSA 193:26-a Graduation Requirements: Free Application for Federal Student Aid
NH Code Admin. Rules Ed 1113.13 Diplomas
NH Code Admin. Rules Ed 306.22 HS Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements and Cocurricular Program

Reaffirmed: 9/13/93, 7/15/96)
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