



POLICY: Senior Supports & Experiences

Approved by Governing Council On: 5/3/2023

Completion of graduation requirements. All students must complete graduation requirements in alignment with the New Mexico Public Education Department requirements and Siembra Leadership High School program requirements. Students may complete graduation requirements at three points in any given school year: 1) Spring/May, 2) Summer/July, and 3) Winter/December.

Support for Seniors in earning credits. Siembra is anchored in supporting young people. During and before Senior year of high school, students are supported at Siembra in the following ways:

- **Family meetings** with Success Coach at least four times per school year.
- **Daily check-ins** with assigned Success Coach on school days.
- **Credit check letters** are sent to families explaining credits, credits in progress and credits needed at the following times in the school year by the Curriculum Director: beginning of school year (August/September), mid-semester of each semester in the school year, end of semester one (December/January), and weekly beginning six weeks prior to graduation for those young people at risk of not earning credits.
- Access to **free and self-paced credit recovery programming** at any point during enrollment.
- Access to **free college courses** and **work-based learning** opportunities during high school.
- **Transition planning** to include completion of next steps plans.
- Support **obtaining necessary documents** to include State IDs, birth certificates and social security cards.
- Support in **applying for colleges, scholarships and financial aid** post-high school.
- **Access to additional resources** and support through the school's Student Support Pillar.
- Committed times throughout the school day and school year to access time and staff for **academic support**.

Graduation Ceremony. Graduation ceremonies take place once per year. Siembra is committed to holding a graduation ceremony to honor young people each year.

- Annual graduation ceremony serves students that are graduating in or eligible to graduate in May (Spring Semester) and July (Summer Semester) of that year.
- Students graduating and eligible to graduate in December have the option to graduate in the May previous or May following of that year.





- Any students that were unable to participate in walking in the graduation ceremony of their graduation year due to personal extenuating circumstances are able to participate in and be honored at the graduation ceremony the following year. Extenuating circumstances can include but are not limited to health issues, grief and loss, safety concerns, caregiving and childbirth.
- Any graduating students who have children have the option to have their child(ren) walk with them to be honored at the graduation ceremony.

Senior Trips. As school budgets and timelines permit, a Senior trip shall take place at Siembra once per school year to honor young people making it to their Senior year of high school. Any student graduating or eligible to graduate in Spring, Summer or December in the same **calendar year** may participate in any Senior trips taking place during the **school year** aligning with that same May. All rules, policies, procedures and regulations that apply on school campus apply on all school trips.

