

SKILLS AND ACHIEVEMENT COMMENCEMENT CREDENTIAL

- I. Students who are eligible to take the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) and meet other specified conditions pursuant to 8 NYCRR 100.6 shall be provided with the appropriate opportunities to earn a skill and achievement commencement credential.
 - A. The credential shall be similar in form to the diploma issued by the district, with a clear annotation to indicate that the credential is based on achievement of alternate achievement standards;
 - B. The credential shall be issued together with a summary of the student's academic achievement and functional performance as required by 8 NYCRR 200.4.
- II. The District will ensure that the following conditions are met:
 - A. The student has been recommended by the committee on special education to be eligible for the alternate assessment in lieu of a regular State assessment;
 - B. The student meets the definition of a student with a severe disability as defined in 8 NYCRR 100.1;
 - C. The student has been afforded appropriate opportunities to participate in community experiences and development of employment and other instructional activities to prepare the student for post-secondary living, learning and employment.
 - D. The student has attended school for at least 12 years, excluding kindergarten, or has received a substantially equivalent education elsewhere, or the student has attained the age of 21;
 - E. If the credential is awarded before the student turns 21 years of age, it must include a written statement of assurance that the student continues to be eligible to attend public school until the student has earned a regular high school diploma or the end of the school year in which the student turns 21, whichever occurs first.
- III. Reports

The District shall submit to the State Education Department, a report concerning students awarded skills and achievement commencement credential in that school year.
- IV. Graduation
 - A. Students may elect to participate in the graduation ceremony of their high school graduation class and all related activities if the student:

POLICY

INSTRUCTION

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1. Qualified to receive a skills and achievement commencement credential or career development and occupational studies commencement credentials; and
 2. Has not otherwise qualified for a regents or local diploma.
- B. If the student's individualized education program prescribes special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's four academic years after the student's entry into high school, the student may elect to participate in the graduation ceremony and activities for the twelfth grade class with which the student entered ninth grade.
- C. The Superintendent will consider the recommendation, if any, of the student's committee on special education as well as the student's own expressed preference regarding participation.
- D. The District shall provide annual written notice to all students with disabilities and their parents/guardians of this policy.

Waterville Central School District

Legal Ref: 8 NYCRR 100.1, 100.6, 200.4; Education Law §4402(9)

Adopted: 11/14/00

Revised: 04/17/18