# **High School Graduation Requirements**

The Board of Education and Superintendent desire each student to complete the approved secondary program and receive a diploma of graduation from high school in order that they may be provided with opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA:

Students shall be awarded a diploma when the following requirements are met:

1. A minimum of 210 credits\* in grades 9 through 12 that shall include:

English 40 credits

Mathematics 10 credits

Algebra 10 credits

Science 20 credits

(10 credits in Life Science/10 credits in Physical Science)

Social Studies 30 credits

(10 credits in World History/Geography, 10 credits in

U.S. History/Geography, 5 credits in American

Government/Civics and 5 credits in Economics)

Physical Education 20 credits

Fine Arts or Foreign Language 10 credits

Health/State Requirements 5 credits

Career Education 5 credits

Electives 60 credits

TOTAL 210 credits

- 2. Completion of a graduation portfolio
- 3. The student shall have achieved one of the following:
  - a) Satisfactory completion of a prescribed alternative course of study approved by the Office of Education as identified in his/her IEP; or

<sup>\*</sup> Students earn one credit for each 12 productive hours or class periods of successful work. Five credits equate to a one semester course, and 10 credits equate to a year-long course.

b) Satisfactorily meeting his/her goals and objectives during high school as identified in his/her IEP; or satisfactory attendance in the secondary school program, participation in the instruction prescribed in his/her IEP, and meeting the objectives of the statement of transition services.

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth, homeless youth, migrant students, children of military families, or newly arrived immigrant students who transfer schools in grade 11-12 in accordance with Educational Code 51225.1 and 49701. The Board may grant honorary high school diplomas to a student who is terminally ill. The honorary diploma shall be clearly distinguishable from the regular diploma of graduation awarded by the district.

### Legal Reference:

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

37252 Supplemental instructional programs

37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12

37254.1 Required student participation in supplemental instruction

47612 Enrollment in charter school

48200 Compulsory attendance

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48645.5 Acceptance of coursework

48980 Notification of parent/guardian

49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life

51224.5 Algebra instruction

51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements

51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking a course

51225.3 Requirements for graduation

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51228 Graduation requirements

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents

51410-51412 Diplomas

51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

51745 Independent Study Restrictions

56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education

66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1600-1651 Graduation of pupils from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

COURT DECISION

O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

## Policy HUMBOLDT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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