#### **Board Policy**

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Subject: High School Graduation Requirements Effective Revised 07/18/18

The Governing Board desires to prepare all students to obtain a high school diploma to enable them to take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and employment.

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(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)
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(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

## Course Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Four courses in English (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)
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2. Three courses in mathematics (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)
(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)
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3. Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)
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4. Three courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)
(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)
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5. One course in visual or performing arts or foreign language, including American Sign Language. (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)
(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)
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6. Two courses in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)
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7. A one-semester course in health education.

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(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction) (cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes) (cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
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- 8. 155 units must be completed in accordance with the content or subject area minimum requirement indicated in the basic requirement chart below.
- 9. 270 units are required, in grades 9 through 12, to qualify for a diploma of graduation.

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Revised 07/18/18

#### **Basic Requirements**

Content or Subject Area	Required Units	Required Courses or Program
Fine Arts or Foreign Language	10	Any approved Visual and Performing Arts or Foreign Language Course.
English		Grade 9 (10 units) English I
		Grade 10 (10 Units) English II
	40	Grade 11 (10 units) English III
		Grade 12 (10 units) English IV Or any other approved course.
		ELD 3 may be used for 10 units of the English requirement.
Mathematics	30	Curricular content of Algebra 1 and Geometry 1A and additional coursework to equal 30 credits
Physical Education	20	Physical Education - Grade 9 (10 units) Physical Education - Grades 10, 11, 12 (10 units)
Science	20	Any course approved for science credit. Course must include: Biological Science (10 units) Physical Science (10 units)
Health	5	Health (5 Units)
Social Science	30	World History - Grades 10 (10 units) US. History - Grade 11 (10 units) American Government - Grade 12 (5 units) Economics - Grade 12 (5 units)
Basic Requirements	155	
Elective Units	115 Units	
Total	270 Units	

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)

#### **Exemptions and Waivers**

A foster youth, homeless student, or former juvenile court school student who transfers into the district any time after completing his/her second year of high school shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code 51225.3 but shall be exempt from any additional district-adopted graduation requirements, unless the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified of the availability of the exemption and whether he/she qualifies for it. (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

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In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by waiving specific course requirements for graduation if the student has satisfactorily completed similar coursework in another district. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)

Fourth Year Limitation

Students may earn no more than 90 units from all sources in the calendar year prior to their graduation (September-June). Appeals for exception to this policy may be approved by the site principal under special circumstances.

#### Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE** 

47612 Enrollment in charter school

48200 Compulsory attendance

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48645.5 Acceptance of coursework

48980 Required notification at beginning of term

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 of course

51225.3 High school graduation

51225.35 Mathematics course requirements; computer science

51225.36 Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51225.6 Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation

51228 Graduation requirements

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents

51410-51412 Diplomas

51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates

51430 Retroactive high school diplomas

51440 Retroactive high school diplomas

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

51745 Independent study restrictions

56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education

60851.5 Suspension of high school exit examination

60851.6 Retroactive diploma; completion of all graduation requirements except high school exit examination

66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

67386 Student safety; affirmative consent standard

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

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

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures

**COURT DECISIONS** 

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

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

California Department of Education, High School: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs

University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:

http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements

Board Policy

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