

Education Programs

Graduation Requirements

I. Purpose

This policy sets forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. General Statement of Policy

It is the school district's policy that all students will fulfill applicable state required assessments as well as satisfactorily complete all course requirements and , as determined by the district and as established by the school board, in order to receive a diploma.

III. Definitions

- A. "Course credit" is equivalent to a student's successful completion of a semester of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district and as identified annually in district course registration catalogs.
- B. "Section 504 Plan" means the defined appropriate accommodations or modifications that must be made in the school environment to support an individual student with an identified need.
- C. "Individualized Education Program" or "IEP" means a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.
- D. "Academic standard" means: (1) a statewide adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, world language, or the arts, or (2) a locally adopted expectation for student learning in health, the arts, or career and technical education.
- E. "English language learners" or "ELL" student means an individual whose first language is not English and whose test performance may be negatively impacted by lack of English language proficiency.

IV. Test Administrator

The Director of Research and Evaluation is the school district test administrator and in charge of all test procedures.

V. Graduation Requirements

Students must fulfill state graduation requirements and successfully complete, high school level courses, as determined by the school district, to graduate from Edina Public Schools.

VI. Requirements to Participate in Graduation Ceremony

- A. The high school graduation ceremony is the commencement event provided to students, families, and community by the school district. A high school senior with the required course credits in grades 9-12, including the course credits required to be earned in grades 10-12, will be allowed to participate in the ceremony. The high school principal or designee will present a list of seniors to receive a diploma from Edina Public Schools to the school board for its approval prior to the ceremony.
- B. The district reserves the right to not allow a student to participate in or attend the graduation ceremony for inappropriate and/or destructive behavior. This includes but is not limited to destroying or damaging property, disrupting the school day or activities, injuring or harming people or animals, or engaging in disrespectful behavior toward fellow students or district staff.
- C. In accordance with state law, the district will not charge fees for rental or purchase of caps, gowns, or diplomas.

VII. Early Graduation

In accordance with state law, students may be considered for early graduation, as provided for within Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 upon meeting the following conditions:

- A. All course or standards and credit requirements must be met;
- B. All test requirements or higher guidelines have been satisfied;
- C. The principal or designee will conduct an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarize the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary education, and arrive at a timely decision; and
- D. The principal's decision will be in writing and may be subject to review by the superintendent and school board.

VIII. Notice

The school district will notify students and their parents of the district's graduation requirements within 30 working days of a student's entry into eighth grade.

Legal References:

- Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students)
- Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
- Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 (Graduation Requirements; Course Credits)
- Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)
- Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards – Written Composition)

Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0635 (K-12 Standards)

20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References:

Policy 601 (Academic Standards and Instructional Curriculum)

Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan)

Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

Policy
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Revised: 8/17/15
Revised: 2/27/17

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 273
Edina, Minnesota

Appendix I to Policy 613

EDINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

I. Graduation Assessment Requirements

- A. All enrolled students are subject to the following assessment requirements:
 - 1. Must participate in the MCA assessments in Reading, Math, and Science
 - 2. Must have had an opportunity to complete the ACT Plus Writing in Grade 11.

- B. All students must complete the currently adopted Minnesota Academic Standards, in accordance with the standards developed by the Minnesota Department of Education:
 - 1. Minnesota Academic Standards, Language Arts K-12;
 - 2. Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12;
 - 3. Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12;
 - 4. Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12;
 - 5. Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12; and
 - 6. Minnesota Academic Standards, Physical Education K-12.

- C. All students must demonstrate their understanding of the following academic standards:
 - 1. School District Standards, Health K-12; and
 - 2. School District Standards, Career and Technical Education K-12.
 - 3. School District Standards, World Languages K-12;

- D. All students must also successfully demonstrate mastery of one of the following required standards:
 - 1. Complete forty-three (43) semester credits in grades 9-12. A minimum of thirty semester credits must be earned in grades 10-12; or
 - 2. Have met the requirements of an IEP or Section 504 Plan; or
 - 3. Have met the requirements of an accredited alternative learning center.

II. Edina Public Schools Graduation Requirements

- A. Students must successfully complete, as determined by the school district, the following high school level course semester credits for graduation:
 - 1. Eight (8) semester credits of English;
 - 2. Six (6) semester credits of mathematics, encompassing at least algebra, geometry, statistics and probability sufficient to satisfy the academic standard. Students must satisfactorily complete two semester credits of Algebra II or its equivalent;

3. Six (6) semester credits of science, including at least two semester credits in biology. Students must also satisfactorily complete two chemistry or two physics semester credits;
4. Eight (8) semester credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics;
5. Two (2) semester credits in the visual and/or performing arts;
6. One (1) semester credit in health and two (2) semester credits in physical education, of which at least one credit must be taken in grades 10-12;
7. One (1) semester credit for Capstone experience;
8. For transfer students, an agriculture science course may fulfill a science semester credit requirement for the specified science semester credits in chemistry or physics found in Section V. A. 3. Further, a career and technical education semester credit may fulfill a mathematics or arts semester credit requirement or a science requirement other than the specified science semester credits in biology.

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