

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### I. Academic Plans, Diploma Types, and Coursework Options

To receive a diploma signifying graduation from a Clark County School District (CCSD) high school, the student must fulfill those requirements designated by the Nevada State Board of Education as outlined in the Nevada State Content and Performance Standards, and policies as established by the Clark County School District Board of Trustees.

#### A. Academic Plans

Each Grade 9 student must have an approved four-year academic plan. The academic plan must set forth the specific educational goals that the student intends to achieve before graduation from high school. The plan may include, without limitation, the designation of a career pathway and enrollment in Dual Enrollment, career and technical education (CTE), Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Honors courses.

The Grade 9 student and their parent/guardian are required to work in consultation with a school counselor to develop an academic plan, sign the academic plan, review the academic plan at least once each school year in consultation with a school counselor, and revise the plan if necessary.

For students enrolling in high school after Grade 9, an academic plan will be created with appropriate grade-level modifications.

The academic plan must be used as a guide for the student and the parent/guardian to plan, monitor, and manage the student's educational and occupational development, and make determinations of the appropriate course of study. Each Grade 9 student must enroll in the courses of study and credits required to fulfill the Core Enrollment Expectations and any additional courses of study and credits required to receive a College and Career Ready Diploma or courses of study. Grade 9 students may also enroll in courses of study and credits required to receive a diploma more rigorous than a College and Career Ready Diploma.

After Grade 9, the student and, if possible, the parent/guardian of the student may consult with a school counselor and, if possible, a school administrator at the school in which the student is enrolled to mutually agree to a modified course of study for the student. The modified course of study must satisfy the requirements for a Standard Diploma, an Adjusted Diploma, or an Alternative Diploma.

A student with a disability may not be required to enroll in the courses of study and credits required to receive a College and Career Ready Diploma if, in accordance with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or a Section 504 Plan, the student is exempted from the requirement.

If a student does not satisfy all of the goals set forth in the academic plan, the student is eligible to graduate and receive a high school diploma if requirements for a diploma are otherwise satisfied in alignment with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388.205.

## 1. Core Enrollment Expectations

CCSD strives to prepare graduates for success in post-secondary education and in the workforce by providing a rigorous curriculum. All high school students will be enrolled in the Core Enrollment Expectations, as provided by NRS 389.018, which are aligned to the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents Core Curriculum Requirements for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship. (Board of Regents Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 18, Section 9.15). A student, including students receiving specially designed instruction, may be granted an enrollment exception to the Core Enrollment Expectations on a limited, individual basis. All exceptions will require written approval of the principal or administrative designee, the counselor, the student, and the parent/guardian.

In addition to the above Core Enrollment Expectations, students must also satisfy additional requirements as set forth below.

## 2. Testing Requirements

- a) All students who are enrolled in Grade 11 in public high schools must take a College and Career Readiness Assessment as established by the Nevada Department of Education (NRS 390.610)
- b) The Assessment, Accountability, Research, and School Improvement Division (AARSID), in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Education determines the students who have taken or fulfilled examinations required for graduation.
- c) Students not enrolled in Grade 11 in a Nevada public school on any of the College and Career Readiness Assessment administration dates are exempt from the College and Career Readiness Assessment requirement.

## B. Diploma Types

In alignment with Nevada Department of Education requirements and available options, CCSD offers a variety of diplomas designed to meet the individual needs of students. Diploma types and requirements are made available to students and families annually in the Back to School Guide. School administration and staff shall be notified annually in publications provided by the Guidance and Counseling Department.

The following diploma types are available to CCSD students:

### 1. Adjusted Diploma

The Adjusted Diploma may be awarded to students receiving specially designed instruction who have fulfilled all requirements outlined in their IEP. Students who earn the Adjusted Diploma may remain in school and continue receiving services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) through the conclusion of the school year of their twenty-second birthday.

### 2. Advanced Diploma

The Advanced Diploma may be awarded to students earning 24 units of credit in specific subject areas and who graduate with a 3.25 unweighted grade point average (GPA).

Beginning with the Cohort of 2026, the Advanced Diploma may be awarded to students earning 24 units of credit in specific subject areas and who graduate with a 3.25 weighted or unweighted GPA.

The Advanced Honors Diploma will continue to be an option for students through the Cohort of 2025. This diploma is based on the requirements of the Advanced Diploma and includes additional coursework in Honors level or higher.

### 3. Alternative Diploma

The Alternative Diploma may be awarded to students receiving specially designed instruction who take the Nevada Alternate Assessment. The Alternative Diploma requirements align with the requirements of the Standard Diploma. Students who earn the Alternative Diploma may remain in school and continue receiving services under IDEA through the conclusion of the school year of their twenty-second birthday.

4. College and Career Ready Diploma

The College and Career Ready Diploma may be awarded to students satisfying the requirements established by NRS 390.605. The requirements include 24 units of credit in the areas of proficiency in speaking two or more languages or two units of credit in either AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, CTE, work-based learning, or a world language. Students must also earn at least one of the two associated endorsements: College-Ready Endorsement or Career-Ready Endorsement.

5. Standard Diploma

The Standard Diploma may be awarded to students earning 23 units of credit in specific subject areas, including two units of College and Career Ready Flex Credits.

6. Adult Standard Diploma

The Adult Standard Diploma is awarded to a person who has withdrawn from high school before graduation and was not eligible to graduate with their class or to any adult who has enrolled in an adult education program and has completed the required credits.

C. Physical Education

1. Exemptions

Exemptions from the course(s) of physical education may be granted under Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 389.488 by the following:

- a) Physical or mental condition, and the request is supported by a written statement from a physician;
- b) Religious belief, and the request is supported by a written statement from the student's parent/guardian;
- c) Enrollment in the Reserve Officer Training Corps;
- d) Intended enrollment in a program which is comparable to the course in physical education;
- e) Exemptions from not more than one credit in physical education may be granted under NAC 389.488 by the following:
  - (1) The student participates in interscholastic athletics, on a drill team, in a marching band, in a dance group, or on a cheerleading squad if:

- (a) The activity is sponsored by the school; and
- (b) The student actively participates in the activity for at least 120 hours per year.

A student who is exempt from a physical education course(s) will be required to successfully complete additional credits of coursework to meet the minimum credit requirements for graduation.

#### D. Equivalent Coursework

The Curriculum and Instruction Division will identify administrative guidelines and courses that may qualify for equivalent coursework.

#### E. External Credit Options

External credits may be granted for coursework completed outside of CCSD while a student is enrolled in CCSD. CCSD enrollment includes coursework taken during the school year and during summer months.

A maximum of six external credits can be applied toward graduation from high school. A maximum of three external credits can be earned in the combined core areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Additionally, external credits from the following programs are accepted, when successfully completed, in accordance with CCSD's guidelines:

1. Community Service (1 credit maximum)
2. Education Travel Credit (1 credit maximum)
3. Music Equivalent Credit (1 credit maximum)
4. Correspondence-Credit/Online Courses
5. Enrichment Program
6. Dual Credit (outside of a formal cooperative agreement)

Dual Enrollment coursework that is completed as part of a CCSD formal cooperative agreement is not considered to be external credit.

If a student completes external Honors or college-level coursework from an accredited institution, bonus points will be awarded as explained in subsection II.A.

The Curriculum and Instruction Division shall establish guidelines that provide direction to schools on granting external credit.

#### F. Duplicated Coursework

A student may repeat a course but shall not receive additional credit for the repeated course. The higher grade shall be recorded on the permanent record and the lower grade replaced with a repeated course (RP) notation.

The College, Career, Equity, and School Choice Unit shall establish guidelines that provide directions to schools and students on the manner in which credit will be allotted.

#### G. State Seals

The following State Seals are available to students that earn a diploma and satisfy additional requirements required by state law: Seal of Biliteracy; Financial Literacy; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); and science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM).

### II. CCSD Honors and College-Level Course Offerings

The CCSD Honors and College-Level Course Offerings are designed to challenge students to enroll in more demanding and rigorous coursework and to improve advanced academic achievement of students demonstrating accelerated educational potential, while providing college and career readiness skills in preparation for postsecondary enrollment. College-Level Course Offerings include AP, IB, and Dual Enrollment coursework.

AP and IB students shall demonstrate preparation for college-level instruction by taking the AP or IB examinations sponsored by the College Board and International Baccalaureate. Students are required to take the AP or IB examinations for each course. Parents/Guardians may waive the testing requirement related to AP and IB by informing the school administration in writing.

In accordance with Regulation 6174, Dual Enrollment Programs, Dual Enrollment Course Offerings are designed to allow eligible students enrolled in CCSD the opportunity to receive credit through those accredited institutions of higher education which have cooperative formal agreements with CCSD.

#### A. Weighted GPA Calculations

1. The weighted GPA will be calculated in the traditional manner (A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0, and F=0).

2. The weighted GPA with bonus points will be calculated by adding bonus points for successful completion of Honors or College-Level Course Offerings, IB coursework.
3. In accordance with NRS 389.007 and NAC 389.6625, bonus points for successful completion of Honors or College-Level Course Offerings will be added as follows:

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Honors          | 0.025 |
| AP              | 0.050 |
| IB              | 0.050 |
| Dual Enrollment | 0.050 |

4. The maximum weighted GPA that can be earned is 4.950; this is achieved by earning a 4.0 unweighted GPA and 0.950 bonus points.

#### B. Identification of Valedictorian(s) and Salutatorian(s)

1. Valedictorian(s), student(s) with the highest weighted GPA with bonus points in the graduating cohort; and Salutatorian(s), student(s) with the second highest weighted GPA with bonus points in the graduating cohort, will be identified as candidates at the end of the fall semester.
2. Final Valedictorian(s) and Salutatorian(s) will be determined based on the completion of all high school credit coursework.
3. Students who repeat courses must be eligible for Valedictorian and Salutatorian designations.

#### C. Honors Course Designations

A committee selected by the Curriculum and Instruction Division will serve as the reviewing and recommending body regarding future course selections for Honors-designation.

### III. High School Graduation - Students with Disabilities

An IEP for each student receiving specially designed instruction must be developed and reviewed annually.

The appropriate course of study leading to program completion will be determined by the IEP team. Efforts should be made to maximize diploma options for students accessing specially designed instruction.

Any student accessing special education services who has not earned a standard, advanced, or College and Career Ready Diploma may return for educational

services through the conclusion of the school year of their twenty-second birthday.

Requirements for students accessing specially designed instruction in the Cohort of 2014 and beyond:

- A. A student accessing specially designed instruction may earn a high school diploma by meeting the requirements stated in Section I.B.
- B. A student accessing special education services may earn an Adjusted Diploma if they have fulfilled all requirements outlined in their IEP. The IEP team may elect to exempt the required areas of study and prescribe an alternate curriculum to the extent that proper consideration has been given to accessing the general education curriculum.
- C. A student who participates in the Nevada Alternate Assessment may earn an Alternative Diploma upon completion of alternative diploma requirements. The Alternative Diploma requirements must be based on grade-level content standards that meet appropriate learning targets for students established by the Nevada Department of Education in the Nevada Academic Content Standard Connectors.

#### IV. High School Graduation - Adult Education

To receive an Adult Standard Diploma signifying graduation, the student must fulfill requirements designated by the Nevada State Board of Education as outlined in NAC 389.688.

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| Cross References:      | Policy 6200, Adult Education<br>Regulation 6200, Adult Education<br>Regulation 6174, Dual Enrollment Programs   |
| Legal Reference:       | NRS 388.205, Development of academic plans<br>NRS 389.007, Uniform grading scale for high schools<br>NRS 389.018, Designation of core academic subjects<br>NRS 390.610, College and career readiness assessment<br>NAC 390.440, Standard diploma requirements<br>NAC 390.430, Advanced diploma requirements<br>NAC 390.443, College and career ready diploma requirements<br>NAC 389.488, Physical education exemption<br>NAC 389.6625, Computation of grade point average<br>NAC 390.470, Adult standard diploma requirements<br>NAC 389.680, Correspondence courses |
| Review Responsibility: | College, Career, Equity, and School Choice Unit   |
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