

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

R-5127

I. Academic Plans, Graduation Requirements, and Diploma Types

To receive a diploma signifying graduation from a Clark County School District 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 Board of School Trustees.

A. Academic Plans

Each ninth-grade 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 credit, career and technical education, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Honors courses.

The ninth-grade student and his/her parent or legal 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 ninth grade, 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 or legal guardian to plan, monitor, and manage the student's educational development and make determinations of the appropriate course of study. If a student does not satisfy all of the goals set forth in the academic plan, he/she is eligible to graduate and receive a high school diploma if requirements for a diploma are otherwise satisfied.

1. Core Enrollment Expectations

The Clark County School District 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 21st Century Course of Study Core Curriculum as outlined below:

	High School Course	Units
a)	English	4
b)	Math (including Algebra II or higher)	4
c)	Natural Science	3

d) Social Studies and History	3
Total Core	14

The 21st Century Course of Study Core Curriculum is consistent with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 389.018 and is aligned with the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship minimum core curriculum requirements. Both are outlined in the NRS Chapter 396 and Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents Handbook Title 4, Chapter 18, Section 9.

A student, including students accessing special education services, may be granted an enrollment exception to the 21st Century Course of Study Core Curriculum on a limited, individual basis. The Instructional Design and Professional Learning Division will identify administrative guidelines for exceptions in the Manual for Registrars and Counselors. All exceptions will require written approval of the principal or administrative designee, the counselor, the student, and the parent or legal guardian.

In addition to the above Core Enrollment expectations, students must also satisfy the applicable requirements set forth below.

2. Testing Requirements

- a) Students in the Cohort of 2016: The State Board of Education requires that students must pass all of the High School Proficiency Examinations (HSPE) and take the College and Career Readiness Assessment.
- b) Students in the Cohort of 2017 and the Cohort of 2018: The State Board of Education requires that students must take Nevada End-of-Course (EOC) examinations and take the College and Career Readiness Assessment.
- c) Students in Cohort 2019 and beyond: The State Board of Education requires that students must pass the Nevada End-of-Course (EOC) examinations and take the College and Career Readiness Assessment.
- d) The Assessment, Accountability, Research and School Improvement Division (AARSID), in cooperation with the Nevada State Board of Education, determines the students who have taken or passed examinations required for graduation.
- e) Per NRS 390.610, students not enrolled in Grade 11 in a Nevada public school on any of the College and Career Readiness Assessment administration dates are exempted from the College and Career Readiness Assessment requirement.

3. Additional Course Requirements by Cohort Year

a) Students in the Cohort of 2017 and the Cohort of 2018:

- (1) must pass two year-long courses that are aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in English Language Arts I and the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in English Language Arts II.
- (2) must pass a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Mathematics I, and pass a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Mathematics II.

b) Students in the Cohort of 2019:

- (1) must take two year-long courses that are aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in English Language Arts I and the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in English Language Arts II.
- (2) must take a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Mathematics I. Students must take a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Mathematics II.

c) Students in the Cohort of 2020 and beyond:

- (1) must take two year-long courses that are aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in English Language Arts.
- (2) must take a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Mathematics I. Students must take a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Mathematics II.
- (3) must take a year-long course that is aligned to the Nevada End-of-Course Examination in Science.

d) The Instructional Design and Professional Learning Division will provide all course alignment charts for requirements noted in this subsection.

B. Diploma Types

1. Standard Diploma

To receive a standard high school diploma as defined in Nevada Administrative Code 389.035, each student must complete twenty-two and one-half (22 ½) units (credits) of approved course work.

- a) Fifteen (15) units in the required areas of study, and
- b) Seven and one-half (7 ½) units of elective credit in approved course work

Required and Elective Areas of Study - Standard Diploma

	Units
(1) English	4
(2) Mathematics	3
(3) Science	2
(4) World History or Geography	1*
(5) U.S. History	1
(6) U.S. Government	1
(7) Physical Education	2
(8) Health	½
(9) 21st Century Learning	½**
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	15
(10) Electives	<hr/>
	7½
Total	<hr/>
	22½

*World History or Geography is required for all Clark County School District students as this fulfills the Arts/Humanities/CTE state requirement.

**Satisfactory completion of ½ credit of a computer literacy course offered in Grades 6, 7, or 8 will meet the requirement for 21st Century Learning.

In addition to the above requirements, students must meet the testing requirements of subsection I.A.2 and the additional course requirements of subsection I.A.3.

2. Advanced Diploma

To receive an Advanced Diploma, each student must complete twenty-four (24) units (credits) of approved course work and achieve a minimum of a 3.25 Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA). Weighted GPA and Weighted GPA with Bonus Points calculations are explained in section II.A.

Also required are:

- a) Eighteen (18) units in the required areas of study, and
- b) Six (6) units of elective credit in approved course work

Required and Elective Areas of Study - Advanced Diploma

	Units
(1) English	4
(2) Mathematics	4
(3) Science	3
(4) World History or Geography (Social Studies)	1 [*]
(5) U.S. History	1
(6) U.S. Government	1
(7) Physical Education	2
(8) Health	½
(9) 21 st Century Learning	½ ^{**}
(10) Arts/Humanities/CTE	1 [*]
	<hr/>
	18
(11) Electives	6
Total	<hr/>
	24

*World History or Geography will satisfy either the student's Social Studies credit or the student's Arts/Humanities/CTE credit but not both. Students may take an additional course to receive credit for the additional requirement.

**Satisfactory completion of ½ credit of a computer literacy course offered in Grades 6, 7, or 8 will meet the requirement for 21st Century Learning.

In addition to the above requirements, students must meet the testing requirements of subsection I.A.2 and the additional course requirements of subsection I.A.3.

3. Advanced Honors Diploma

To receive an Advanced Honors Diploma, each student must complete the Advanced Diploma requirements and must complete the Honors, International Baccalaureate (IB), or Advanced Placement (AP) courses as indicated below.

Honors, AP or IB Course Requirements - Advanced Honors Diploma

	Units
a) English	3
b) Mathematics	2
c) Science	2

d)	Social Studies and History	2
e)	Foreign Language (second year or higher)	1
f)	Electives	<u>2</u>
	Total	12

C. Physical Education

1. Exemptions

Exemptions from two (2) units (credits) in physical education may be granted under Nevada Administrative Code 389.488 by the following:

- a) Application presented by the student indicating reasons for an exemption due to a physical or mental condition and the request is supported by an annual written statement from a physician.
- b) Application presented by the student indicating reasons for a religious exemption and the request is supported by an annual written statement from the parent or guardian.

Any student who obtains an exemption in physical education will be required to successfully complete two (2) additional credits of elective courses to meet the credit requirements for graduation.

2. Waivers

A waiver for Physical Education II shall be granted under the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 389.488, if a student actively participates in a school sponsored activity for one hundred-twenty (120) hours in interscholastic athletics, on a drill team, in a marching band, in a dance group, or on a cheerleading squad.

D. Equivalent Course Work

The Instructional Design and Professional Learning Division will identify courses that may qualify for equivalent course work in the Secondary Course Identification Directory.

Administrative guidelines are found in the Manual for Registrars and Counselors.

E. External Credit Options

In addition to opportunities to earn credits in the school classroom setting and through approved distance education programs, the Clark County School District provides high school students with opportunities to earn six (6) external

credits. A student may not apply more than six (6) units (credits) earned through external credit toward graduation from high school. A maximum of three (3) units can be earned in the combined core areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies.

External credits from the following programs are accepted, when successfully completed, in accordance with the Clark County School District's guidelines:

1. Community Service (1 credit maximum)
2. Correspondence Credit / Online Courses
3. Credit by Exam
4. Dual Credit (Honors or Regular)
5. Education Travel Credit (1 credit maximum)
6. Enrichment Program
7. Music Equivalent Credit (1 credit maximum)
8. Physical Education II Waiver – External (1 credit maximum)

If a student completes an external Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum from an accredited institution, bonus points will be awarded as explained in subsection II.A. Honors, AP, and/or IB designation will be awarded for approved dual credit courses as denoted in the Dual Credit List provided by the Instruction Design and Professional Learning Division.

The Instructional Design and Professional Learning Division shall establish guidelines which provide direction to schools and students on granting external credit. Administrative guidelines are found in the Manual for Registrars and Counselors.

F. Duplicated Course Work

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 notation.

The Instructional Design and Professional Learning Division shall establish guidelines which will provide directions to individual schools and students on the manner and methods in which credit will be allotted. Administrative guidelines for repeating a course are found in the Manual for Registrars and Counselors.

II. Clark County School District Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB) Course Offerings

The CCSD Honors, AP, and IB course offerings are designed to challenge students to enroll in more demanding and rigorous course work and to improve advanced

academic achievement of students demonstrating accelerated educational potential.

Mastery of AP and IB course content shall be determined by participation in 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 or guardians may waive the testing requirement related to Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) by informing the school administration in writing.

A. Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculations

1. The Weighted GPA will be calculated in the traditional manner (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, and F=0).
2. The Weighted GPA with Bonus Points will be calculated by adding bonus points for successful completion of Honors, AP, or IB course work.
3. In accordance with the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 389.6625, bonus points for successful completion of Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses will be added as follows:

Honors	.025
Advanced Placement (AP)	.050
International Baccalaureate (IB)	.050

4. Beginning with the Cohort of 2021, there will be no GPA cap.

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 course work.

C. Honors Course Designations

A committee selected by the Instructional Design and Professional Learning Division will serve as the reviewing and recommending body regarding future course selections for Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate designation.

III. High School Graduation - Special Education

An Individualized Education Program (IEP) for each student accessing special education services 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 special education services.

Any student accessing special education services who has not earned a standard, advanced, or advanced honors diploma, may return for educational services until the student's 22nd birthday.

Requirements for students accessing special education services in the Cohort of 2014 and beyond:

- A. A student accessing special education services 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 high school diploma upon completion of twenty-two and one-half (22 ½) units in regular and/or adjusted course work. 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.

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 the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 389.688.

See CCSD Policy 6200, "Adult Education" and CCSD Regulation 6200, "Adult Education."

Review Responsibility:	Instructional Services Unit
Adopted:	[5127: 7/27/73]
Revised:	(8/13/81; 9/24/81; 4/21/82; 7/11/85; 12/10/87; 3/10/88; 6/9/88; 2/12/91; 7/12/94; 1/14/99; 8/10/00)
Pol Gov Rev:	6/28/01
Revised	(1/9/03; 4/27/06; 1/11/07; 2/13/14; 5/12/16; 5/25/17)