

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

R-5127

I. Academic Plans, Diploma Types, and Course Work 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 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 and occupational 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 in alignment with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388.205.

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 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 accessing special education services, may be granted an enrollment exception to the Core Enrollment Expectations on a limited, individual basis. The Curriculum and Professional Development Division will identify administrative guidelines for exceptions. 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 additional requirements as set forth below.

2. Testing Requirements

- a) Beginning with the cohort of 2015, all students must take the College and Career Readiness Assessment as established by the Nevada State Board of Education to receive a high school diploma. (NRS 390.610)
- b) The Assessment, Accountability, Research and School Improvement Division (AARSI), in cooperation with the Nevada State Board of Education, determines the students who have taken or passed 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 exempted 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 Reporter. School administration and staff shall be notified annually in publications provided by the Guidance and Counseling Department.

1. Standard Diploma, Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 389.664
2. Advanced Diploma, NAC 389.663
3. Advanced Honors Diploma, Clark County School District
4. College and Career Ready Diploma, NAC 389

C. Physical Education

1. Exemptions

Exemptions from two (2) units (credits) in physical education may be granted under NAC 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 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 Curriculum and Professional Development Division will identify administrative guidelines and courses that may qualify for equivalent course work in the Secondary Course Identification Directory.

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. Education Travel Credit (1 credit maximum)
4. Enrichment Program
5. Music Equivalent Credit (1 credit maximum)
6. 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 Curriculum and Professional Development Division.

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

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 (RP) notation.

The Curriculum and Professional Development Division shall establish guidelines that provide directions to schools and students on the manner in which credit will be allotted.

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 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.
3. Beginning with the Cohort of 2021, students who repeat courses must be eligible for Valedictorian and Salutatorian designations.

C. Honors Course Designations

A committee selected by the Curriculum and Professional Development 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, advanced honors, or college and career ready 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.
- C. A student with a significant cognitive disability may earn an alternative high school diploma upon completion of adapted standard diploma requirements. The adapted requirements must be based on grade-level content standards that meet appropriate learning targets for students and are established by the Nevada Department of Education in the Nevada Academic Content Standards 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.

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

Legal Reference:	NRS 388.205 Development of academic plans NRS 389.018 Designation of core academic subjects NRS 390.610 College and career readiness assessment NAC 389.664 Standard diploma requirements NAC 389.663 Advanced diploma requirements NAC 389 College and career ready diploma requirements NAC 389.488 Physical education exemption NAC 389.6625 Computation of grade point average NAC 389.688 Adult standard diploma requirements
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