

**08.02.03 - RULES GOVERNING THOROUGHNESS**

**105. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.**

A student must meet all of the requirements identified in this section before the student will be eligible to graduate from an Idaho high school. The local school district or LEA may establish graduation requirements beyond the state minimum. (5-8-09)

**01. Credit Requirements.** The State minimum graduation requirement for all Idaho public high schools is forty-six (46) credits and must include twenty-nine (29) credits in core subjects as identified in Paragraphs 105.01.c. through 105.01.i. (3-12-14)

**a. Credits.** (Effective for all students who enter the ninth grade in the fall of 2010 or later.) One (1) credit shall equal sixty (60) hours of total instruction. School districts or LEA's may request a waiver from this provision by submitting a letter to the State Department of Education for approval, signed by the superintendent and chair of the board of trustees of the district or LEA. The waiver request shall provide information and documentation that substantiates the school district or LEA's reason for not requiring sixty (60) hours of total instruction per credit. (3-29-10)

**b. Mastery.** Notwithstanding the credit definition of Subsection 105.01.a., a student may also achieve credits by demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards as defined and approved by the local school district or LEA. (3-29-17)

**c. Secondary Language Arts and Communication.** Nine (9) credits are required. Eight (8) credits of instruction in Language Arts. Each year of Language Arts shall consist of language study, composition, and literature and be aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for the appropriate grade level. One (1) credit of instruction in communications consisting of oral communication and technological applications that includes a course in speech, a course in debate, or a sequence of instructional activities that meet the Idaho Speech Content Standards requirements. (3-29-10)

**d. Mathematics.** Six (6) credits are required. Secondary mathematics includes Applied Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in mathematical problem solving and reasoning. AP Computer Science, Dual Credit Computer Science, and Dual Credit Engineering courses may also be counted as a mathematics credit if the student has completed Algebra II standards. Students who choose to take AP Computer Science, Dual Credit Computer Science, and Dual Credit Engineering may not concurrently count such courses as both a math and science credit. (3-12-14)

**i. Students must complete secondary mathematics in the following areas:** (3-12-14)

(1) Two (2) credits of Algebra I or courses that meet the Idaho Algebra I Content Standards as approved by the State Department of Education; (3-29-10)

(2) Two (2) credits of Geometry or courses that meet the Idaho Geometry Content Standards as approved by the State Department of Education; and (3-29-10)

(3) Two (2) credits of mathematics of the student's choice. (3-29-10)

**ii. Two (2) credits of the required six (6) credits of mathematics must be taken in the last year of high school in which the student intends to graduate. For the purposes of this subsection, the last year of high school shall include the summer preceding the fall start of classes. Students who return to school during the summer or the**

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following fall of the next year for less than a full schedule of courses due to failing to pass a course other than math are not required to retake a math course as long as they have earned six (6) credits of high school level mathematics.

(3-12-14)

iii. Students who have completed six (6) credits of math prior to the fall of their last year of high school, including at least two (2) semesters of an Advanced Placement or dual credit calculus or higher level course, are exempt from taking math during their last year of high school. High School math credits completed in middle school shall count for the purposes of this section.

(3-12-14)

e. Science. Six (6) credits are required, four (4) of which will be laboratory based. Secondary sciences include instruction in applied sciences, earth and space sciences, physical sciences, and life sciences. Up to two (2) credits in AP Computer Science, Dual Credit Computer Science, and Dual Credit Engineering may be used as science credits. Students who choose to take AP Computer Science, Dual Credit Computer Science, and Dual Credit Engineering may not concurrently count such courses as both a math and science credit.

(3-12-14)

i. Secondary sciences include instruction in the following areas: biology, physical science or chemistry, and earth, space, environment, or approved applied science. Four (4) credits of these courses must be laboratory based.

(3-29-10)

f. Social Studies. Five (5) credits are required, including government (two (2) credits), United States history (two (2) credits), and economics (one (1) credit). Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but are not to be counted as a social studies requirement.

(3-29-10)

g. Humanities. Two (2) credits are required. Humanities courses include instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language aligned to the Idaho content standards for those subjects. Other courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is aligned to the Idaho Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.

(3-29-10)

h. Health/Wellness. One (1) credit is required. Course must be aligned to the Idaho Health Content Standards. Effective for all public school students who enter grade nine (9) in Fall 2015 or later, each student shall receive a minimum of one (1) class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR to include the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course.

(3-12-14)

i. Students participating in one (1) season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association or club sport recognized by the local school district, or eighteen (18) weeks of a sport recognized by the local school district may choose to substitute participation up to one (1) credit of physical education. Students must show mastery of the content standards for Physical Education in a format provided by the school district.

(4-1-15)

02. Content Standards. Each student shall meet locally established subject area standards (using state content standards as minimum requirements) demonstrated through various measures of accountability including examinations or other measures.

(3-29-10)

03. College Entrance Examination. (Effective for all public school students who enter grade nine (9) in Fall 2012 or later.)

(3-12-14)

a. A student must take one (1) of the following college entrance examinations before the end of the student's eleventh grade year: SAT or ACT. Students graduating who participated in the Compass assessment prior to 2017-its final administration may also use the Compass to meet this requirement. Students receiving special education services through a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may utilize the Accuplacer placement exam in lieu of the SAT or ACT.

(3-25-16)( )

b. A student who misses the statewide administration of the college exam during the student's grade eleven (11) for one (1) of the following reasons, may take the examination during their grade twelve (12) to meet this requirement:

(3-25-16)

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i. Transferred to an Idaho school district during grade eleven (11) and has not previously participated in one of the allowed College Entrance Exams outlined in Subsection 03.a; (3-12-14)( )

ii. Was homeschooled during grade eleven (11) and is enrolled in an Idaho high school as a diploma seeking student; or (3-12-14)( )

iii. Missed the spring statewide administration of the college entrance exam dates for documented medical reasons. (3-12-14)

**bc.** A student may elect an exemption ~~in grade eleven (11)~~ from the college entrance exam requirement if the student is: (3-12-14)( )

i. ~~Enrolled in a special education program and has an current~~ Individual Education Plan (IEP) that specifies ~~accommodations not allowed for a reportable score on the approved tests~~ the student meets the alternate assessment eligibility criteria; (3-12-14)( )

ii. Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three (3) academic years or less; or (3-12-14)

iii. ~~Enrolled for the first time in grade twelve (12) at~~ Transferring from out of state to an Idaho high school ~~after the fall statewide administration of the college entrance exam~~ in grade twelve (12). (4-1-15)( )

**d.** A school district, on behalf of a student, on a form established by the State Department of Education, may submit an appeal application requesting the Superintendent of Public Instruction or their designee consider another college entrance exam or college placement exam to fulfill this requirement, or exempt the student due to extenuating circumstances. ( )

**04. Senior Project.** A student must complete a senior project by the end of grade twelve (12). The project must include a written report and an oral presentation. Additional requirements for a senior project are at the discretion of the local school district or LEA. (3-12-14)

**05. Civics and Government Proficiency.** Pursuant to Section 33-1602, Idaho Code, each LEA may establish an alternate path for determining if a student has met the state civics and government content standards. Alternate paths are open to all students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12.) Any student who has been determined proficient in the state civics and government content standards either through the completion of the civics test or an alternate path shall have it noted on the student's high school transcript. (3-29-17)

**06. Middle School.** A student will have met the high school content and credit area requirement for any high school course if the requirements outlined in Subsections 105.05.a. through 105.05.c. of this rule are met. (3-25-16)

**a.** The student completes such course with a grade of C or higher before entering grade nine (9); (3-12-14)

**b.** The course meets the same content standards that are required in high school for the same course; and (3-25-16)

**c.** The course is taught by a teacher properly certified to teach high school content and who meets the federal definition of highly qualified for the course being taught. (3-25-16)

**d.** The student shall be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and such grade and the number of credit hours assigned to the course shall be transferred to the student's high school transcript. Notwithstanding this requirement, the student's parent or guardian shall be notified in advance when credits are going to be transcribed and may elect to not have the credits and grade transferred to the student's high school transcript. Courses taken in middle school appearing in the student's high school transcript, pursuant to this subsection, shall count for the purpose of high school graduation. However, the student must complete the required number of credits in

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all high school core subjects as identified in Subsections 105.01.c. through 105.01.h. except as provided in 105.01.d.iii. The transcribing high school is required to verify the course meets the requirements specified in Subsections 105.05.a. through 105.05.b. of this rule. (3-25-16)

**07. Special Education Students.** A student who is eligible for special education services under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act must, with the assistance of the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, refer to the current Idaho Special Education Manual for guidance in addressing graduation requirements. (4-11-06)

**08. Foreign Exchange Students.** A foreign exchange student may be eligible for graduation by completing a comparable program as approved by the school district or LEA. (4-11-06)

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