

BOARD POLICY

Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

Students

5128.4 - BP

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION FROM ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL (INDEPENDENT STUDY)

The Board of Education establishes the following requirements for the satisfactory completion of the alternative high school program of study and for the granting of the diploma of graduation. The student will:

1. Successfully complete a minimum of 210 credits. (To be applied toward the completion of this requirement, any credit taken outside of the district program while attending a district high school must be approved in advance by the principal or his designee and by the parent/guardian and must relate to identified goals of the student.)
2. Successfully complete the specific requirements as indicated below:
 - A. Language Arts: 4 years 40 credits
 - Language Arts 1 10 credits
 - Language Arts 2 10 credits
 - Language Arts 3 10 credits
 - Language Arts 4 or approved
 - Language Arts electives..... 10 credits
 - B. Mathematics: 2 years 20 credits

Ten (10) credits of Algebra I or its equivalent as established in administrative regulations are required for graduation. Acceptable completion of this course prior to ninth grade will meet this requirement.
 - C. Social Science: 3 years 30 credits
 - World History/Culture/Geography 10 credits
 - U.S. History/Geography 10 credits
 - U.S. Government 5 credits
 - Economics 5 credits
 - D. Science: 2 years 20 credits

To include instruction in biological and physical science
 - E. Physical Education/Wellness 20 credits
 - F. Visual or Performing Arts, World Language, Career Technical Education
..... 10 credits

Visual or Performing Arts includes courses from the fields of art, music, drama, humanities, and dance. Dance may not be taken for both fine arts and physical education credit.

- G. Health Education 5 credits
- H. Career Education..... 5 credits
- I. Beginning with the graduating class of 2030 and for every subsequent class:
 Multicultural Studies 5 credits
- J. Service Learning/Community Service40 hours
- K. Elective Courses..... 60 credits

No more than twenty (20) of these elective credits may be earned in work experience or service-based courses. The 20 service-based credits which may be accumulated from Grades 9-12 are office, classroom, and library aides. This excludes home study. Such courses shall be periodically reviewed and designated by the Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, to meet this requirement.

NOTE: In accordance with Education Code 51225.3, alternative means for students to complete the above prescribed courses of study may be developed and implemented with the approval of the Superintendent or designee.

3. Transfer students must meet all requirements for high school graduation established by the State of California. Transfer students who had met the requirements of their former districts prior to enrollment will be required to meet only those requirements of this district which may reasonably be expected during the time remaining in the normal four-year period of attendance. A minimum of 20 credits must be completed in residence. An evaluation indicating remaining requirements shall be made immediately upon receipt of transfer records. This evaluation shall be interpreted to each student and parent/guardian concerned.

Principals or their designated representatives shall have the authority to exercise discretion in this matter.

Principals are designated the authority to resolve issues which may arise in the transition periods caused by changes in graduation requirements.

Administrative regulations shall be developed to facilitate the implementation of this policy.

4. Exemptions from District-Approved Graduation Requirements

An individual with exceptional needs, who entered 9th grade in the 2022-23 school year or later, shall be eligible for the exemption and award described in Education Code 51225.31 (a) if their individualized education program provides for all of the following (Education Code 51225.31 (b)):

- (a) The pupil's individualized education program team has deemed the student eligible to take the state alternate assessments
- (b) The pupil is required to complete state standards-aligned coursework to meet the statewide course requirements specified in Section 51225.3.

The District shall exempt an individual with exceptional needs who satisfies the eligibility criteria described above from all courses and other requirements adopted by the governing board that

are additional to the statewide course requirements and shall award the pupil a diploma of graduation from high school.

An individual with exceptional needs who meets the criteria for an alternative diploma-pathway pursuant to this policy shall be eligible to participate in any graduation ceremony and any school activity related to graduation with their grade-level peers with and without disabilities. Participation in graduation activities shall not be construed as termination of the provision of free appropriate public education consistent with Section 300.102(a)(3)(ii) of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Policy adopted: 5/28/96
Policy revised: 7/23/02
Policy revised: 6/21/05
Policy revised: 6/19/12
Policy revised: 9/8/2020
Policy revised: 5/7/2024