

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Policy No. 2410

- A. The board will award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in the district who meets the requirements of graduation established by the district. Only one diploma will be awarded with no distinctions being made between the various programs of instruction which may have been pursued.

The board will establish graduation requirements which satisfy those established by the state board of education. To meet state and district graduation requirements, students will need to satisfy the following:

1. Earn the appropriate number of credits as follows:

Class of:	2018-2020	2021+*
Entering 9 th grade after July 1:	2014-2016	2017+
<u>CREDIT REQUIREMENTS</u>		
<i>English</i>	4.0	4.0
<i>Mathematics</i>	3.0	3.0
<i>Science (1.0 Lab)</i>	2.0	3.0#
<i>Social Studies</i>	3	3.0
<i>Arts</i>	1.0	2.0##
<i>Health</i>	0.5	0.5
<i>Physical Education^^</i>	2.0	1.5
<i>Occupational Education</i>	1.0	1.0
<i>Electives</i>	5.5	4.0
<i>World Language</i>	0	2.0##
<i>Total Credits</i>	22.0	24.0
<u>ASSESSMENTS</u>		
<i>ELA</i>	ELA SBAC test	ELA SBAC test
<i>Math</i>	One Math EOC or Math SBAC^	Math SBAC
<i>Science</i>	Biology EOC	Biology EOC

*Blaine received State two year extension (until class of 2021) for implementing 24.0 credit graduation requirement.

#Requires 2.0 credits of Lab Science

For both Fine Arts and World Languages, some of the credits required can be fulfilled through the Personalized Pathway Requirement (PPR). These are courses that lead to a specific post-high school career and educational outcome chosen by the student. Students can choose to take up to 3.0 credits in PPR (in lieu of 1.0 credit of Arts and 2.0 credits of World Language) depending on their High School and Beyond Plan. If a student changes their career and educational goals, the student does not need to earn another 3.0 credits in their PPR, but should choose their next PPR class so that it aligns with their new goals.

^ For Class of 2019 and beyond Math SBAC test only. EOC's discontinued after Class of 2018.

^^ Physical Education credits may be waived for students who are enrolled in four years of Fine Arts or AVID. This will be done on an individual basis and will be documented in the student's cumulative file.

In addition to the minimum credit requirements, to earn a diploma each student must complete:

2. **A High School and Beyond Plan:** Within the four years of high school enrollment, and potentially initiated at Grade 8, each student will develop a plan for satisfying the state and district's high school graduation requirements and for their first year after high school completion. The plan should be developed in collaboration with the student, parent, and district staff. The plan should include a career goal and also include how the student will satisfy the district's academic credit requirements, preparation for successfully completing the state assessments, and the student's goals for the year following graduation. Each student's plan should be reviewed annually by their advisors or counselors to assess student progress, to adjust the plan, and to advise the student of steps necessary for successful completion of the plan. A student receiving special education services who has developed a transition plan as part of their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may be considered by the district to have developed a High School and Beyond Plan.
 - a. Grade 8 Personal Pathway Credit: Career Pathways will be implemented throughout the middle school beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. The Career Information System program (WOIS) will be implemented along with the OSPI personal pathways curriculum at sixth, seventh and eighth grade. The curriculum will be taught at each grade level.

This personal pathways class will expand in a scaffolded way from sixth grade to eighth grade so that during the eighth grade year all students will be prepared to earn 0.5 high school credits by beginning the development of a college and career planning portfolio that will prepare students for high school where they will continue with preparations for college and beyond.

Blaine School District provides the opportunity for all 8th graders to take a Career Pathways course at Blaine Middle School (BMS), with the possibility of earning high school credit upon successful completion of the course.

A High School 0.5 credit with a transcribed grade of P is only available for students who successfully complete a full year of Career Pathways during their 8th grade year at BMS. Credit will be awarded as an elective. No credit will be awarded for Career Pathways for students who take the course prior to 8th grade or for students who complete Career Pathways from a different school district (unless that district transcribes a Careers course (or similar) onto a student's transcript as part of their current policy.

3. Meet standard on applicable state assessments.

<u>Content Area</u>	<u>2018-2020</u>	<u>2021+*</u>
<i>ELA</i>	ELA SBAC test	ELA SBAC test
<i>Math</i>	One Math EOC or Math SBAC^	Math SBAC
<i>Science</i>	Biology EOC	Biology EOC

^ For Class of 2019 and beyond Math SBAC test only. EOC's discontinued after Class of 2018.

4. **A Culminating Project:** During senior year, each student will complete a culminating project. The project will demonstrate the student's ability to think analytically, logically, and creatively and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems. The project will also have a connection to the world of work in that it will demonstrate that the student understands the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.
5. **Community Service Activities:** Twelfth grade students must complete 20 hours of community-related involvement which may be encompassed within the High School and Beyond Plan or the Culminating Project.

A student will receive a certificate of academic achievement only if they earn the appropriate number of credits required by the district; complete the High School and Beyond Plan; complete a culminating project; and meet the reading, writing, science, and math standards on the appropriate state assessment.

A student qualifying for special education services may earn a Certificate of Individual Achievement after passing assessments determined by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team to be appropriate for the student based on their learner characteristics, post-secondary goals and previous testing history.

- B. Students must complete mathematics courses in one of the following progressive sequences.
 - a. Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II; or
 - b. Integrated Mathematics I, Integrated Mathematics II, and Integrated Mathematics III; or
 - c. Any combination of (a) and (b) in progressive sequence and beyond.

In lieu of a third credit of mathematics, students may choose an alternative mathematics course, if the parent/guardian agrees that the third credit mathematics elective is supportive of the student's education and career goals. Before approval of the elective third mathematics credit, a meeting will be held with the student, the parent/guardian, and the school staff to discuss the student's 13th Year Plan (Personalized Pathway) and the mathematics requirements for post-secondary and career choices.

The district will obtain a signed consent from the parent for the student to enroll in the alternative third credit of mathematics. The consent form will confirm the meeting, that the parent understands the impact of the selection on the student's educational and employment options, and that the alternative is most appropriate for the needs of the student.

Students may also satisfy the mathematics requirements by earning credit in a Collection of Evidence (COE) course as an upperclassman, or by earning equivalency based credit in career and technical education mathematics courses. Those credits must be recorded using the equivalent academic high school department designation.

- C. The superintendent will develop procedures for implementing this policy which include:
 1. Establishment of the process and assessment criteria for the high school culminating project requirements; and determination of the education plan process for identifying competencies.

2. Establishing the process for completion of the High School and Beyond Plan.
3. Recommending course and credit requirements which satisfy the state board of education requirements and recognize the expectations of the citizens of the district.
4. Determining which courses satisfy particular subject area requirements and whether a particular course may satisfy more than one subject area requirement including a process for determining the credits the district will recognize for courses taken through another program recognized by the state (e.g. another public school district or an approved private school) or those courses taken by students moving into the state from another state or country. Decisions regarding the recognition of credits earned before enrolling in the district will be based on the professional judgment of the high school principal or designee based on an evaluation of the student's former program and demonstrated knowledge and skills in the discipline for which credit is sought. The decision of the principal may be appealed to the superintendent within fifteen school days.
5. Making graduation requirements available in writing to students, parents, and members of the public.
6. Providing a waiver of graduation requirements for an individual student when permitted. All state graduation requirements must be satisfied unless a waiver is permitted by law.
7. Granting credit for learning experiences conducted away from school including National Guard high school career training.
8. Granting credit for correspondence, vocational-technical institutes, and/or college courses for college or university course work the district has agreed to accept for high school credit. State law requires that the district award one high school credit for every five quarter hour credit or three semester hour credit for college level courses numbered 100 level or higher successfully earned through Running Start at a college or university. Credit will not be awarded for community college high school completion programs where the State awards the diploma. Tenth and eleventh grade students and their parents will be notified annually of the Running Start Program. College in the Classroom courses will earn 0.5 credits per semester through Blaine High School with the corresponding college credit awarded by the partner college on their transcript. This college credit will not be transferred onto the Blaine High School transcript.
9. Granting credit for work experience.
10. Granting credit based upon competence testing, in lieu of enrollment.
11. Specific consideration will be given to the granting of high school transcript credit for Grade 8 students in Algebra (high school equivalent content) and Personalized Pathway completion (0.5 elective credits).
12. Counseling of students to know what is expected of them for completion of their schooling.

13. Preparing a list of all graduating students for the information of the board and to be released to the public.
14. Preparing suitable diplomas and final transcripts for graduating seniors.
15. Planning and executing graduation ceremonies.

The selection of valedictorian will occur after Winter quarter Running Start grades are received.

In the event minimum test requirements are adopted by the board, a student who possesses a disability will satisfy those competency requirements which are incorporated into the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Satisfactory completion of the objectives incorporated into the IEP will serve as the basis for determining completion of a course.

Graduation requirements in effect when a student first enrolls in high school will be in effect until that student graduates unless such period is in excess of ten years.

Awarding of a Diploma

A student will be issued a diploma after completing the district's requirements for graduation. In lieu of the certificate of academic achievement, special education students may earn a certificate of individual achievement. A student will also be advised that he/she may receive a final transcript.

However, a student's diploma or transcript may be withheld until the student pays for any school property that has been lost or willfully damaged. Upon payment for damages, the diploma or transcript will be released. When the damages or fines do not exceed \$100, the student or his/her parents will have the right to an appeal using the same process as used for short-term suspension as defined in Policy 3241, Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Action. When damages are in excess of \$100, the appeal process for long term suspension as defined in Policy 3241, Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Action will apply.

In the event that other forms of corrective actions are imposed for violations of school rules, the student may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies. Such exclusion will be regarded as a school suspension. In such instances, the diploma will be granted.

Cross References:	Policy 2414	Community Service
	Policy 2418	Waiver of High School Graduation Credits
	Policy 3110	Qualifications of Attendance and Placement
	Policy 3241	Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Action
	Policy 3412	Automated External Defibrillators
	Policy 3520	Student Fees, Fines, and Charges
Legal References:	RCW 28A.230.090	High school graduation requirements or equivalences – Reevaluation of graduation requirements—Review and authorization of proposed changes – Credit for courses taken before attending high school – Postsecondary credit equivalencies

RCW 28A.230.093	Social studies course credits – Civics coursework
RCW 28A.230.097	Career and technical high school course equivalencies
RCW 28A.230.120	High school diplomas — Issuance — Option to receive final transcripts – Notice
RCW 28A.600.300-400	Running Start program - Definition
RCW 28A.635.060	Defacing or injuring school property –Liability of pupil, parent or guardian — Withholding grades, diploma, or transcripts —Suspension and restitution — Voluntary work program as alternative — Rights protected
WAC 180-51	High school graduation requirements
WAC 392-121-182	Alternative learning experience requirements
WAC 392-169	Special service programs – Running Start program
WAC 392-348	Secondary education
WAC 392-410	Course of study and equivalencies
WAC 392-415	Secondary Education – Standardized high school transcript

Management Resources:

Policy and Legal News, October 2015
Policy and Legal News, December 2014
Policy and Legal News, September 2013
Policy News, April 2012
Policy News, October 2011
Policy News, June 2010
Policy News, April 2009
Policy News, February 2009
Policy News, August 2007
Policy News, December 2004
Policy News, February 2004
Policy News, October 2004
Policy News, December 2000
Policy News, April 1999

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Blaine School District