



Book	MUHSD Policy
Section	6000 Instruction
Title	High School Graduation Requirements
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High School Graduation Requirements

BP 6146.1 Instruction

The Board of Trustees desires to prepare each student to obtain a diploma of high school graduation in order to provide students with opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)
(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)
(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Course Requirements

To obtain a diploma of graduation from high school, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Four courses in English (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

2. Two courses in mathematics (Education Code 51225.3)

At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I.

Completion, prior to grade 9, of algebra coursework that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete two mathematics courses in grades 9-12. (Education Code 51224.5)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

3. Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, three courses in science must be completed, including life, physical sciences, and one elective science course. (Education Code 51225.3)

Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, for students graduating from Yosemite High School, two courses in science must be completed, a life science course and a physical science course.

(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)

4. Four courses in social studies, which includes health, family life and sex education, HIV/AIDS education, drug and alcohol education, United States history and geography; world history, culture and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics (Education Code 51225.3) Beginning with the class of 2020, Four courses in social studies; a one-semester course that includes health, family life and sex education, HIV/AIDS education, and drug and alcohol education; a one-semester course that includes college and career exploration and planning; a course in world history, culture and geography; a course in United States history and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics. (Education Code 51225.3)

5. One course in visual or performing arts, or foreign language or commencing with the 2012-13 school year, career technical education (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)

6. Two courses in physical education, unless the student has been exempted pursuant to Education Code 51241 (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

7. Beginning with the class of 2020: 40 credits of electives. Some elective units may include mandatory courses assigned by the principal or designee to remediate students who are failing to make adequate progress in the academic program.

8. Beginning with the class of 2020: 20 credits of Career Technical Education courses.

9. Demonstration of competency on the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS).

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law. Beginning with the class of 2020, the superintendent or his designee may waive requirements in excess of the state graduation requirements for students who have completed two or more semesters of a pathway at an alternative education site or two or more semesters of a newcomer English Language Development program. The superintendent or his designee may waive the Career Technical Education course requirement for students whose academic program requires advanced levels of coursework as defined (Administrative Regulation 6146.1).

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

Exit Exam for the Classes of 2006 and Later

Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation. (Education Code 60851, 60859)

Notwithstanding any other law, the high school exit examination shall not be required as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation or a condition of graduation from high school for a pupil completing grade 12 in 2015 and who has met all other high school graduation requirements. (Education Code 60851.1)

Notwithstanding Section 60851, the administration of the high school exit examination, and the requirement that each pupil completing grade 12 successfully pass the high school exit examination as a condition of receiving a diploma of graduation or a condition of graduation from high school, shall be suspended for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years. (Education Code 60851.5)

Notwithstanding Section 60851 or any other law, the governing board or body of a local educational agency, and the department on behalf of state special schools, shall grant a diploma of graduation from high school to any pupil who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination. (Education Code 60851.6 (a))

(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

Supplemental instruction shall be offered to any student who does not demonstrate "sufficient progress," as defined in Board policy, toward passing the exit examination. (Education Code 37252, 60851)

(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)

(cf. 6177 - Summer School)

(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Retroactive Diplomas

The district may retroactively grant a high school diploma to a former student who was interned by order of the federal government during World War II or who is an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, provided that he/she was enrolled in a district school immediately preceding the internment or military service and he/she did not receive a diploma because his/her education was interrupted due to the internment or military service. (Education Code 51430)

In addition, the Board may retroactively grant a diploma to a deceased former student who satisfies the above conditions. The diploma shall be received by the deceased student's next of kin. (Education Code 51430)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35186 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures

37252 Supplemental instructional programs

37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12

37254.1 Required student participation in supplemental instruction

47612 Enrollment in charter school

48200 Compulsory attendance

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48645.5 Acceptance of coursework

48980 Required notification at beginning of term

49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life

51224.5 Algebra instruction

51225.3 Requirements for graduation

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51228 Graduation requirements

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents

51410-51412 Diplomas

51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

51745 Independent study restrictions

52378 Supplemental school counseling program

56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education

60850-60859 High school exit examination

66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

COURT DECISIONS

O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, High School: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/g/hs>

University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>

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