



Administrative Regulation 5129

DIPLOMA SEALS, CERTIFICATES, AND ENDORSEMENTS

Responsible Office: Office of Academics

PURPOSE

This administrative regulation establishes the list of seals, certificates, and endorsements, and the criteria to earn them, upon graduation in the Washoe County School District ("District" or "WCSD").

REGULATION

1. The following administrative regulation does not affect WCSD **requirements** for graduation. (See Administrative Regulation 5127, High School Graduation Diploma Requirements)
2. Available diploma seals, certificates, and endorsements are listed herein.
3. Seal of Biliteracy
 - a. All students, beginning with the Graduating Class of 2016, will receive information on the Seal of Biliteracy as part of the academic planning process upon entering middle and high school settings so that they are able to organize their schedules and meet the requirements to receive this honor.
 - b. The State Seal of Biliteracy is an award given to high school graduates who:
 - i. Complete 4 years (4 credits) of English Language Arts with at least a 2.0 grade point average (GPA), on a 4.0 scale. The GPA will be calculated after the 7th semester grade posts;
 - ii. Successfully pass all assessments required for graduation according to Nevada state law;
 - iii. Demonstrate proficiency in one or more approved world language other than English.
 1. The following language assessments must be taken prior to the graduation date:
 - a. Pass the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) Measure (form B) with a score of 1-4 or higher in all four domains; or
 - b. Pass the Advanced Placement (AP) world language exam with a score of 3 or higher; or

- c. Pass the International Baccalaureate (IB) world language exam with a score of 4 or higher.
 2. For languages not included in the AAPPL, AP, or IB assessments, students may take the Avant WorldSpeak assessment, if available, and pass with a minimum score of intermediate high. If the language is not available through any of the previously mentioned assessments, students may take Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI), if available and pass with a minimum score of intermediate high.
 3. For American Sign Language, students must take the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) with a score of 3 or higher.
 - iv. Schools will offer the AAPPL exam for students who meet the criteria, but have not demonstrated proficiency through another means (AP or IB) as indicated by the District Assessment Calendar.
 - c. Student scores will be loaded to the District's electronic student records management system (Infinite Campus).
 - d. Accommodations, such as those already in place for state-required assessments of language, should be permitted if allowed per the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
 - e. The Seal will be added to the student's transcript for the specific language(s). The Seal(s) will be added to the student's diploma and affixed by a school official.
 - f. Students have one year from the date of graduation to return to their school to have the seal(s) affixed to their diploma that were earned after graduation. Seal(s) added after graduation will not result in the change of a diploma type. The diploma type cannot be changed after graduation.
4. Seal of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and Seal of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM)
 - a. All students, beginning with the Graduating Class of 2019, will receive information on the Seal of STEM and/or STEAM, as part of the academic planning process upon entering the middle and high school settings so that they are able to organize their schedules and meet the requirements to receive this honor.
 - b. STEM. The State Seal of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics recognizes graduates who have attained a high level of

proficiency in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students can demonstrate proficiency in these subject areas by taking the courses and passing designated assessments as follows:

- i. Earn at least a 3.25 grade point average, on a 4.0 scale or a 3.85 weighted grade point average ("GPA").
- ii. Demonstrate proficiency in science, technology, engineering and mathematics by earning:
 1. At least four credits in science; and
 2. At least four credits in mathematics; and
 3. At least one credit in computer science, engineering, manufacturing, electronics, or a career and technical education program of study in information and media technologies or skilled and technical sciences.
- iii. Demonstrate proficiency in science through any one of the following:
 1. Pass an Advanced Placement (AP) science exam with a score of 3 or higher; or
 2. Pass an International Baccalaureate (IB) science exam with a score of 4 or higher; or
 3. Pass the SAT Subject Test in Science with a score of 650 or higher; or
 4. Pass the ACT Science test with a score of 23 or higher; or
 5. Earn a grade of B or higher in a college-level science course completed through dual enrollment; or
 6. Earn a score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Test.
- iv. Demonstrate proficiency in mathematics through any one of the following:
 1. Pass an Advanced Placement (AP) mathematics exam with a score of 3 or higher; or
 2. Pass an International Baccalaureate (IB) mathematics exam with a score of 4 or higher; or
 3. Pass the SAT Mathematics test with a score of 530 or higher; or

4. Pass the ACT Mathematics test with a score of 22 or higher;
or
 5. Earn a grade of B or higher in a college-level mathematics course completed through dual enrollment; or
 6. Earn a score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Test.
- c. STEAM. The State Seal of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics recognizes graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics.
- i. Students can demonstrate proficiency in these subject areas by taking the courses and passing designated assessments as follows:
 1. Earn at Least a 3.25 grade point average, on a 4.0 scale or a 3.85 weighted grade point average.
 2. Demonstrate proficiency in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics by earning:
 - a. At least three credits in science; and
 - b. At least four credits in mathematics; and
 - c. At least one credit in computer science, engineering, manufacturing, electronics, or a career and technical education program of study in information and media technologies or skilled and technical sciences; and
 - d. At least one credit in fine arts.
 3. Demonstrate proficiency in science through any one of the following:
 - a. Pass an Advanced Placement (AP) science exam with a score of 3 or higher; or
 - b. Pass an International Baccalaureate (IB) science exam with a score of 4 or higher; or
 - c. Pass the SAT Subject Test in Science with a score of 650 or higher; or
 - d. Pass the ACT Science test with a score of 23 or higher; or
 - e. Earn a grade of B or higher in a college-level science course completed through dual enrollment; or

- f. Earn a score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Test.
 4. Demonstrate proficiency in mathematics through any one of the following:
 - a. Pass an Advanced Placement (AP) mathematics exam with a score of 3 or higher; or
 - b. Pass an International Baccalaureate (IB) mathematics exam with a score of 4 or higher; or
 - c. Pass the SAT Mathematics test with a score of 530 or higher; or
 - d. Pass the ACT Mathematics test with a score of 22 or higher; or
 - e. Earn a grade of B or higher in a college-level mathematics course completed through dual enrollment; or
 - f. Earn a score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Test.
 - d. The seal(s) will be added to the student's diploma and affixed by a school official. All seals and certificates will appear on the student's official transcript with designation of the specific area.
 - e. Students have one year from the date of graduation to return to their school to have the seal(s) affixed to their diploma that were earned after graduation. Seals added after graduation will not result in the change of a diploma type. The diploma type cannot be changed after graduation.
5. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certificate
- a. All students will receive information on the CTE Certificate prior to entering high school so that they are able to organize their schedules and meet the requirements to receive this honor.
 - b. The State Career and Technical Education (CTE) certificate will be awarded to graduates who:
 - i. Maintained a 3.0 grade point average, on a 4.0 grading scale (weighted or unweighted), for all units of credit applicable to the course of study in career and technical education;

- ii. Passed the state end-of-program technical assessment according to the established cut score as prescribed by the Nevada Department of Education; and
 - iii. Passed the state assessment for employability skills according to the established cut score.
 - c. The CTE Certificate will be awarded to all students who meet the criteria and satisfy the requirements for graduation from high school.
- 6. College-Ready and/or Career-Ready Endorsement
 - a. All students, beginning with the Graduating Class of 2019, will receive information on the College-Ready or Career-Ready Endorsements, as part of the Academic Planning process prior to entering high school so that they are able to organize their schedules and meet the requirements to receive this honor.
 - b. To earn either a College-Ready or Career-Ready Endorsement, the student must also qualify for a Career and College Ready Diploma.
 - c. The State College-Ready endorsement will be awarded to graduates who successfully complete the college readiness assessment prescribed by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.
 - i. Students shall not receive less than the minimum scores for initial placement (non-remedial) into college-level English and mathematics courses prescribed by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada. (See the Board of Regents Handbook for additional information)
 - 1. English:
 - a. Pass the ACT English test with a score of 18 or higher; or
 - b. Pass the SAT Evidence Based Reading and Writing (testing after March 2016) with a 480 or higher; or
 - c. Pass the Smarter Balanced Assessment with a 2583 (Achievement Level 3) or higher; or
 - d. Pass the PARCC with a Level 4 Score or higher; and
 - 2. Math:
 - a. Pass the ACT Mathematics test with a score of 22 or higher; or

- b. Pass the SAT Math (testing after March 2016) with a 530 or higher; or
 - c. Pass the Smarter Balanced Assessment with a 2628 (Achievement Level 3) or higher; or
 - d. Pass the PARCC with a Level 4 Score or higher.
- d. The State Career-Ready endorsement will be awarded to graduates who successfully:
- i. Pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test (ASVAB) with a score of 50+ or higher; or
 - ii. Pass the National Career Readiness Certificate Assessment (NCRC) with a score of Silver or higher; or
 - iii. Complete a CTE program of study and earn the Nevada Skills Certificate; or
 - iv. Obtain an industry recognized credential on the Nevada Industry Recognized Credential list provided by the Office of Workforce Innovation for the New Nevada (OWINN).
7. On an annual basis, the Superintendent shall present the Board of Trustees with a report of the percentage of graduates who have completed various Seals, Certificates, and Endorsement.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- 1. Through this administrative regulation, the Superintendent shall ensure that students and their families are properly notified about and have the opportunity to earn all approved State of Nevada diploma seals, certificates, and endorsements.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- 1. This document reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns/complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
 - a. Board Policy 6600, Course of Study
 - b. Administrative Regulation 5127, High School Graduation Diploma Requirements.
- 2. This document complies with Nevada state laws and regulations, to include:
 - a. Chapter 388, System of Public Instruction
 - i. NRS 388.591 and NRS 388.593, State Seal of Biliteracy Program

- ii. NRS 388.594 and 388.5945, State Seal of STEM
- iii. NRS 388.597 and 388.5975, State Seal of STEAM
- b. Chapter 389, Academics and Textbooks
 - i. NAC 389.800 - 389.81, Program of Career and Technical Education
- c. Chapter 390, Testing of Pupils and Graduation
 - i. NRS 390.605, Graduation with college and career ready high school diploma; endorsements for such diplomas; annual review of regulations establishing requirements; incentive grants and reimbursements to public high schools and school districts for pupils.

REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This document shall be reviewed as part of the bi-annual review and reporting process, following each regular session of the Nevada Legislature. The Board of Trustees shall receive notification of any required changes to the associated policy.
2. Administrative regulations, and/or other associated documents, will be developed as necessary to implement this document. The Board of Trustees and Superintendent shall receive notification of the adoption and/or revision of any associated administrative regulations.

REVIEW HISTORY

| Date | Revision | Modification |
|-----------|----------|--------------|
| 3/21/2019 | 1.0 | Adopted |