

Calexico USD

Board Policy

High School Graduation Requirements

BP 6146.1

Instruction

The ~~Board of Education~~ **Governing Board** desires to prepare all students to obtain a high school diploma ~~to enable them to~~ **so that they can** take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

Course Requirements

To obtain a **high school** 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: **(Education Code 51225.3)**

1. ENGLISH: Successful completion of 4 full year courses (40 credits total)
 - a. English 9
 - b. English 10
 - c. English 11
 - d. English 12

English 9, 10, 11 should be successfully completed before enrolling in the next English level or concurrent with the next level. Advanced Placement Language and Composition may be taken to fulfill the English 11 requirement. Advanced Placement Literature and Composition may be taken to fulfill the English 12 requirement.

English Learner students entering high school at the Beginning or Early Intermediate language proficiency levels and requiring ELD courses prior to taking the required English courses may fulfill ~~one year of required~~ English courses (~~specifically, English 9~~) with successful completion of ~~one two-period~~ ELD courses. ~~English Learner students requiring a second or third year of ELD courses shall take those courses concurrently with other required English courses (English 10, English 11, or English 12).~~

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading Language Arts Instruction)

2. MATHEMATICS: Successful completion of ~~two~~ **three** full year courses (~~20~~ **30** credits total) **beginning with the class of 2023.** (Education Code 51225.3)

a. ~~Algebra I (2 semesters)~~

b. ~~A second math course (2 semesters)~~

At least ~~on one~~ **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: **or Mathematics I. Completion of such coursework prior to grade 9 shall satisfy the Algebra I or Mathematics I requirement, but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete three mathematics courses in grades 9-12.** (Education Code 51224.5)

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

~~f~~

~~(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)~~

~~(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)~~

Students may be awarded up to one mathematics course credit for successful completion of an approved computer science course that is classified as a "category c" course based on the "a-g" course requirements for college admission. (Education Code 51225.3, 51225.35)

(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)

3. SCIENCE - Successful completion of ~~two~~ **three** full year courses, including biological and physical sciences (~~20~~ **30** credits total) **beginning with the class of 2023.** (Education Code 51224.3)

a. ~~A Physical Science course~~

b. ~~A Biological Science course~~

(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)

4. SOCIAL SCIENCE: Successful completion of three years of social science (30 credits total) (Education Code 51225.3)

- a. World History (10th grade)
- b. United States History (11th grade)
- c. American Government (1 semester, 12th grade)
- d. Economics (1 semester, 12th grade)

Advanced Placement World History may be taken to fulfill the World History requirement. Advanced Placement United States History may be taken to fulfill the United States History requirement. Advanced Placement Government may be taken to fulfill the American Government requirement, and Advanced Placement Economics may be taken to fulfill the Economics requirement.

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

5. FINE ARTS or VOCATIONAL EDUCATION: Successful completion of a one year course in visual or performing arts, ~~foreign language, American Sign Language~~, or career technical education (CTE) (10 credits total) (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)

(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

6. PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Successful completion two courses (20 credits total) in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education **and Activity**)

7. FOREIGN LANGUAGE: Successful completion of four semesters (5 credits per semester / 20 credits total) in a Foreign Language **and/or American Sign Language**.

(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)

8. ELECTIVES: Successful completion of 60 credits in elective courses (6 elective courses / 5 credits per semester).

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.

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

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

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

Alternative (Continuation) High School

Aurora High School is the alternative (continuation) high school serving students in the Calexico Unified School District. Aurora High School students shall complete 220 credits in order to receive a high school diploma including successful completion of all prescribed coursework as described in the course requirements section above (**Aurora High School varies to include a trimester system equivalent to semesters**). For students earning a high school diploma from Aurora High School, the minimum 2.00 grade point average requirement shall be calculated based on grades of courses completed at Aurora High School only. Students who return to the comprehensive high school for graduation purposes will be required to meet the 2.00 cumulative grade point average required based on grades earned in all grade 9 - 12 coursework.

Adult Education

Students shall receive diplomas of graduation from high school through the Robert Morales Adult Education Center only after completing the prescribed course of study, meeting the following standards of proficiency established by the district:

1. Obtain (at minimum) 140 credits, with 10 credits (minimum) earned at Robert Morales Adult Education Center
2. Obtain (at minimum) a 2.00 Grade Point Average for Graduation while attending Robert Morales Education Center

In addition to successfully completing the required coursework listed in the following section below, Adult Education students must be at least 18 years of age, earn a minimum 2.00 grade point average for courses taken at Robert Morales Adult Education Center, and have earned a minimum of 10 credits at Robert Morales Adult Education Center.

Course Requirements for Adult Center High School Diploma (Robert Morales Adult Education)

1. ENGLISH: Successful completion of eight semesters (5 credits per semester / 40 credits total)
 - a. English 9 (2 semesters)
 - b. English 10 (2 semesters)
 - c. English 11 (2 semesters)
 - d. English 12 (2 semesters)
2. MATHEMATICS: Successful completion of four semesters (5 credits per semester/20 credits total)

- a. Algebra I (2 semesters)
- b. A second math course (2 semesters)
3. SCIENCE: Successful completion of four semesters including biological and physical sciences (5 credits per semester / 20 credits total), (Education Code 51224.3)
 - a. A Physical Science course (2 semesters)
 - b. A Biological Science course (2 semesters)
4. SOCIAL SCIENCE - Successful completion of six semesters (5 credits per semester / 30 credits total) (Education Code 51225.3)
 - a. World History (2 semesters)
 - b. United States History (2 semesters)
 - c. American Government (1 semester)
 - d. Economics (1 semester)
5. FOREIGN LANGUAGE, FINE ARTS or VOCATIONAL EDUCATION: Successful completion of one course (2 semesters) in visual or performing arts, foreign language, American Sign Language, or vocational education (5 credits per semester / 10 credits total) (Education Code 51225.3)
6. PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Successful completion of four semesters (5 credits per semester / 20 credits total) in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (Education Code 51225.3)

Exemptions from District-Adopted Graduation Requirements

District students are required to complete graduation course requirements specified above, including the requirements imposed by Education Code 51225.3 and those adopted by the Board. However, a foster youth, homeless student, or former juvenile court school student, child of a military family, or migrant student who transfers into the district or between district schools any time after completing his/her the second year of high school or a newly arrived immigrant student who is in the third or fourth year of high school and is participating in a newcomer program, shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code 51225.3 but shall be exempted from any additional district-adopted graduation requirements, adopted by the Board that are in addition to statewide course requirements. unless This exemption shall not apply if the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her the fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified or of the

commencement of participation in a newcomer program, as applicable, the Superintendent or designee shall notify any eligible student of the availability of the exemption and whether he/she the student qualifies for it. (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)

(cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

~~In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by waiving specific course requirements for graduation if the student has satisfactorily completed similar coursework in another district. (Education Code 49701)~~

~~(cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)~~

Retroactive Diplomas

~~Until July 31, 2018, any student 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 shall be granted a high school diploma. (Education Code 60851.6)~~

~~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 interment or military services and he/she did not receive a diploma because his/her education was interrupted due to the interment or military service. A deceased former student who satisfies these conditions may be granted a retroactive diploma to be received by his/her next of kin. (Education Code 51430)~~

~~In addition, the district may grant a diploma to a veteran who entered the military service of the United States while he/she was a district student in grade 12 and who had completed the first half of the work required for grade 12. (Education Code 51440)~~

Any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 through 2014-15 school year and met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination shall be granted a high school diploma. (Education Code 51413)

In addition, the district may retroactively grant high school diplomas to: (Education Code 48204.4, 51430, 51440)

1. Persons who departed California against their will while in grade 12 and did not receive a diploma because the departure interrupted their education, provided that they were in good

academic standing at the time of the departure

Persons may be considered to have departed California against their will if they were in custody of a government agency and were transferred to another state, were subject to a lawful order from a court or government agency that authorized their removal from California, were subject to a lawful order and were permitted to depart California before being removed from California pursuant to the lawful order, were removed or were permitted to depart voluntarily pursuant to the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, or departed due to other circumstances determined by the district that are consistent with the purposes of Education Code 48204.4.

In determining whether to award a diploma under these circumstances, the Superintendent or designee shall consider any coursework that may have been completed outside of the United States or through online or virtual courses.

2. Former students who were interned by order of the federal government during World War II or who are honorably discharged veterans of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, provided that they were enrolled in a district school immediately preceding the internment or military service and did not receive a diploma because their education was interrupted due to the internment or military service in those wars

Deceased former students who satisfy these conditions may be granted a retroactive diploma to be received by their next of kin.

3. Veterans who entered the military service of the United States while in grade 12 and who had satisfactorily completed the first half of the work required for grade 12 in a district school

Honorary Diplomas

The Board may grant an honorary high school diploma to: (Education Code 51225.5)

1. An international exchange student who has not completed the course of study ordinarily required for graduation and who is returning to the home country following the completion of one academic school year in the district

(cf. 6145.6 - International Exchange)

2. A student who is terminally ill

The honorary diploma shall be clearly distinguishable from the regular diploma of graduation awarded by the district. (Education Code 51225.5)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

47612 Enrollment in charter school

48200 Compulsory attendance

48204.4 Parents/guardians departing California against their will
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
51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements
51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course
51225.3 Requirements for graduation
51225.35 Mathematics course requirements; computer science
51225.36 Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation
51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students
51225.6 Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation
51228 Graduation requirements
51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements
51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents
51410-~~51412~~ 51413 Diplomas
51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates
51430 Retroactive high school diplomas
51440 Retroactive high school diplomas
51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
51745 Independent study restrictions
~~52378 Supplemental school counseling program~~
56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education
~~60851.5 Suspension of high school exit examination~~
~~60851.6 Retroactive diploma; completion of all graduation requirements except high school exit examination~~
66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria
67386 Student safety; affirmative consent standard
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation
4600-~~4687~~ 4670 Uniform complaint procedures
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/gs/hs>

University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>

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