

POLICY 6456
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Academic credits shall be awarded for mastery of standards in grades nine through twelve. A student must earn 23 with a maximum 28 high school credits as described in Rule 6456 to graduate from the Kenosha Unified School District No. 1 and a student must also complete one of the following:

1. Earn a score of basic or above in three of five subtests on the high school Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE)
2. Earn a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 1.5 on an unweighted scale through the seventh semester of high school; i.e., January of senior year
3. Meet one of the following test scores requirements:
 - a. ACT Assessment - 18 or above
 - b. SAT I Exam - 870 or above
4. Successfully complete an approved Individual Education Plan (IEP), Limited Language Plan (LLP), and/or Section 504 Plan

Students may audit classes, enroll in Youth Option courses, or enroll in summer school offerings in excess of the 28 credits. A procedure describing how these options can be accessed will be established by administration.

A credit deficient student who is at least 17 years of age who has been in a high school cohort group for all four years (a student with a July birthday would be able to take the exam with the June testing group if they attended high school for four years with their peers) may also successfully complete the District Competency Graduation Requirements or a comparable program to earn a District diploma. In addition, a District diploma may be earned by a transfer student through an academic review of the student's transcript by a building administrator.

All students shall be required to take a full schedule except junior and senior year when students may be allowed to have one release per quarter or semester. In addition, four years of high school attendance shall be required unless early graduation is applied for and approved pursuant to established District procedures. Students are eligible for early graduation when they have completed the requirements for receipt of a diploma.

The Board may award a high school diploma to certain veterans, notwithstanding District and statutory high school graduation standards. To be awarded a diploma, a person must be at least 65 years of age, attended high school in the District or attended high school in Wisconsin and resides in the District, left high school before graduation to join the U.S. armed forces during a war period as defined in state law, and served on active duty under honorable conditions in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces. War periods include, among others, World War II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam War, and Persian Gulf War. The Board may also award a high school diploma to a person who received a high school equivalency diploma after serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces if the person meets the other conditions outlined in this paragraph and to a veteran who is deceased, but who has satisfied the conditions outlined in this paragraph prior to death.

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes

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| Sections | 115.787 | [Individualized education programs] |
| | 115.915 | [Program or curriculum modifications for school-age parents] |
| | 118.15(1)(b)-(cm) | [16 and 17 year old student participation in program leading to high school graduation or high school equivalency] |

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes, continued

- 118.153 [Programs for children at risk of not graduating]
- 118.30 [Student assessment; state requirements]
- 118.33 [High school graduation standards]
- 118.35 [Programs for gifted and talented students]
- 118.52(3)(d)2 [Part-time public school open enrollment]
- 118.55 [Youth Options Program]
- 120.13 [Board power to do all things reasonable for the cause of education]
- 120.13(37) [Board power to issue diplomas to veterans]
- 121.02(1)(p) [School district standard; graduation requirements]
- PI 18 Wisconsin Administrative Code [High school graduation standards]
- PI 40 [Determining and awarding high school credit for Youth Options Program courses]

- CROSS REF.: 5110, Equal Educational Opportunity/Student Discrimination Complaint
5118.1, Promotion
5120, Student Enrollment Reporting
5240, Accommodation of Private School and Home-Based Private Education Program Students
5260, Full-Time Public School Open Enrollment
5270, Part-Time Public School Open Enrollment
5310, Student Attendance
6423, Talent Development Program
6460, Testing Programs
Youth Options Programs
Special Education Program and Procedure Manual

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS: None

AFFIRMED: August 13, 1991

REVISED: August 22, 1995
May 28, 1996
July 30, 1996
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June 17, 1997
June 9, 1998
August 11, 1998
September 14, 1999
October 23, 2001
May 27, 2003
November 22, 2005
August 26, 2008
November 25, 2008
April 26, 2011

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A. Credit Requirements

1. Specific Credits Required out of 23

ENGLISH	4 credits
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 credits
MATHEMATICS	3 credits
SCIENCE	3 credits
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 ½ credits*
HEALTH	½ credit
CONSUMER EDUCATION	½ credit**
COMMUNITY/SERVICE LEARNING	Required of all students
DIPLOMA WITH SERVICE DISTINCTION	1 Credit Service Learning Project
DIPLOMA WITH HONORS DISTINCTION	4 Advanced Placement credits
<p>*Unless exempted pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, exemption shall be granted for medical reasons upon presentation of a physician's statement. Students excused from physical education for all four years of high school for medical reasons shall be required to make up ½ credit in another elective subject for each semester excused from physical education.</p> <p>**Waived for students who successfully complete ½ credit Honors Economics, ½ credit Economics, 1 credit Advanced Placement Economics, or 1 credit Marketing.</p>	

2. The District will provide access to honors, advanced placement, and post-secondary courses in accordance with state law requirements.
3. Summer school credit is awarded on the basis of one-half credit for each class successfully completed based on standards. Prior approval by the principal is required to earn credit for summer school courses taken outside of the District.
4. Credit deficient students who are at least 17 years of age who have been in a high school cohort group for all four years (a student with a July birthday would be able to take the exam with the June testing group if they attended high school for four years with their peers) and are current residents of the District may be issued a District diploma if they satisfy the following Competency Graduation Requirements.
 - a. Are enrolled members of a District cohort group, which means that students must have been enrolled members of a particular Kenosha Unified School District graduating class. Eligible students must have been enrolled in the District prior to the end of their cohort year graduation date. Non-KUSD cohort students 18 yrs of age or older whose graduation year has expired will not be eligible to participate in the program.
 - b. Score at or above the fourth stanine on all predetermined subtests including core areas of the District's adopted standardized achievement tests.
 - c. Demonstrate competency in writing, which can be accomplished by scoring at a level 4.0 or higher on the WKCE writing assessment or scoring at a level 3.0 or higher on the WorkKeys writing assessment.

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- d. Complete consumer education/economics, health, government and politics, or approved comparable courses.
 - e. Meet employability standards in one of the following ways:
 - Successful employment for a six-month period of time and can provide validation; or
 - Meet an employability component established by the District in the form of a work readiness portfolio.
 - f. Students will be required to assume any associated costs for the administration and scoring of District adopted standardized assessments.
5. Accelerated/alternative high school credit attainment is an option for high school students aged 16 and above who may earn high school credit based upon satisfactory completion of individual portions of a District or state-approved criterion referenced test at 85 percent mastery or on norm referenced tests at the 4th stanine or above, normed at 12th grade, 7th month, independent of length of time required; completion of performance-based assignments, and attainment of minimum required credits.

B. Early Graduation

To be considered for early graduation, the student and the parent/guardian shall submit a written request to the principal no later than the end of the first marking period of the school year in which the student plans to graduate early.

The student's course of study, earned grades in such courses, grade point average, and other performance indicators shall be made part of the student's transcript.

- C. Students enrolled in a middle school who complete high school courses may be awarded high school credit toward the overall district credit requirement, but not for the credit specified in WI State Statues.

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