

Board Policy

High School Graduation Requirements

BP 6146.1 Instruction

The Board of Education 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. 6144.2 - 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 through 12, which meet or exceed Education Code 51225.3 requirements and meet or exceed the University of California course requirements, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified: (Education Code 51225.3)

1. Earn ~~225~~ 235 semester credits in grades 9-12 *for the class of 2016-17*; 230 semester credits in grades 9-12 *for the class of 2018-19*; 235 semester credits in grades 9-12 *for the class of 2020 and beyond*¹
2. English (40 Semester Credits in Grades 9-12)

English 9th grade	10 Semester Credits
English 10th grade	10 Semester Credits
English 11th grade	10 Semester Credits
English 12th grade	10 Semester Credits

May include ELD classes (Level 3 & 4)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

3. Mathematics (30 Semester Credits in Grades 9-12, and the completion of Algebra, Geometry, and a third year of University of California Mathematics (c) approved Mathematics)

¹ Class of 2016-17: Still required to take Health (5 credits) and Senior Plan addition (5 credits) = 235
Class of 2017-18 & 2018-19: Addition of Senior Plan = 230
Class of 2020 and beyond: Addition of Senior Plan = 230 and Reinstated Health requirement (5 credits) = 235

In alignment with Education Code 51224.5 students graduating in 2004 and beyond must complete coursework in grades 7-12 that meets or exceeds State Academic Content Standards for Algebra I. If any student completes coursework in grades 7 through 12 that meets or exceeds state academic content standards for Algebra, those courses shall apply toward satisfying this mathematics requirement. (Education Code 51224.5)

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

Completion, prior to grade 9, of algebra coursework that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall satisfy the algebra coursework requirement, but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete three ² mathematics courses in grades 9-12. (Education Code 51224.5)

~~In alignment with Education Code 51225.3(b), a qualifying student may request an alternative equivalency course to satisfy the third year mathematics requirement. Alternative equivalency requires demonstrated competency in advanced mathematics and four years of mathematics courses. (Education Code 51225.3)~~

4. History/Social Science (30 Semester Credits for Grades 9-12)

9th or 10th Grade	World History/Geography	10 Semester Credits
11th Grade	U.S. History	10 Semester Credits
12th Grade	U.S. Government	5 Semester Credits
12th Grade	Economics	5 Semester Credits

May include EL World History/U.S. History 20 Semester Credits

5. Science (25 Semester Credits in Grades 9-12)

Biological lab Science	10 Semester Credits
Physical lab Science	10 Semester Credits
<i>Health</i>	<i>5 Semester Credits³</i>

² The State now requires two math courses taken in grades 9-12, including completion of Algebra. However, they are now offering to credit computer science as a mathematics course credit for districts requiring three years of mathematics as a flexible option. Here is the CSBA rationale: Note: The following optional paragraph is for use only by districts that require more than two courses in mathematics for graduation and should be deleted by other districts. Pursuant to Education Code 51225.3 and 51225.35, as added by AB 1764 (Ch. 888, Statutes of 2014), a district that requires more than two courses in mathematics may award up to one mathematics course credit for an approved computer science course, as defined. Any such course must have been approved by the University of California as a "category c" (mathematics) course in the university's "a-g" course admission criteria; see BP 6143 - Courses of Study.

And here is the CSBA recommended BP language: ***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)***

³ Health was eliminated for the Class of 2018 and beyond; however, this move was complicated by 2016 legislation that requires instruction on STD/HIV and Sexual Health/Consent education; the course is not required, but the content is. Staff recommend reinstating for class of incoming Freshmen, Class of 2020 and beyond.

6. Physical Education (20 Semester Credits in Grade 9 and Grades 10-12). Passing of 5/6 California Physical Fitness Standards by the completion of grade 10 Physical Education ~~or continued enrollment in PE until students are in the healthy fitness zone in 5/6 State Physical Fitness Testing and 5/6 Standards are passed~~

9th Grade *Physical Education*

10 Semester Credits

10th -12th Grade *Physical Education*

10 Semester Credits

Elective opportunities in physical education ~~will~~ *may* be provided for interested students in grades 11 and 12 ~~and for those needing to meet the State physical fitness requirement for graduation.~~

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

~~(SB 601—Fitness Standards, student ability to waive 11 and 12, and 3 electives minimum for 11th and 12th grade students)~~

7. Foreign Language (20 Semester Credits in Grades 9-12) One year of foreign language equivalent credit from middle grades may be applied toward this requirement.⁴

~~In alignment with Education Code 51225.3(b), a qualifying student may request an alternative equivalency course to satisfy the second year foreign language requirement. Alternative equivalency requires demonstrated competency in a foreign language and three years of foreign language courses. (Education Code 51225.3)~~

8. Visual or Performing Arts (10 Semester Credits in Grades 9-12 of the same course)

9. Elective Requirement (55 Semester Credits in Grades 9-12)

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth, homeless students, and children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.1 and 49701.

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

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

⁴ Consideration: The State requires one year of FL, OR Visual or Performing Arts OR a CTE course. Should the district opt to apply this flexible option, the requirements below would apply (CSBA explanation):

Note: Education Code 51225.3 authorizes the Board to include a course in career technical education (CTE) as an alternative to the visual or performing arts or foreign language course requirement for high school graduation. If the Board chooses to do so, it must, at a regular Board meeting prior to allowing a CTE course as an alternative, notify parents/guardians, students, teachers, and the public of information specified in Education Code 51225.3. In addition, the information must be included in the district's annual notification to parents/guardians pursuant to Education Code 48980; see the accompanying administrative regulation. Districts that do not allow this alternative course requirement should delete references to CTE in item #5 below.

The CTE course may be offered through different means, including a district-operated program, regional occupational center or program, or county office of education program pursuant to a joint powers agreement. See BP/AR 6178 - Career Technical Education and BP 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program for program details pertaining to CTE.

10. *Senior Plan (5 credits)*

All Beverly Hills High School students will be guided by administration and counseling staff to complete the Beverly Hills High School Four Year/College and Career Plan. Students will complete the 5 credit requirement by attending counseling meetings and workshops that prepare students for a college or specialty school/program application upon graduation.

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)

~~9. High School Exit Examination~~

~~As a condition of high school graduation, each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) in language arts and mathematics unless he/she receives a waiver or exemption. (Education Code 60851, 60859)~~

~~The exit examination demonstrates proficiency in the State of California Standards. (Education Code 60851, 60859)~~

~~(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 toward passing the CAHSEE. (Education Code 37252, 60851)~~

~~(cf. 6177 – Summer School)
(cf. 6179 – Supplemental Instruction)~~

~~Students who have not passed one or both parts of the exit exam by the end of grade 12 shall have the opportunity to receive intensive instruction and services for up to two consecutive academic years after completion of grade 12 or until they have passed both parts of the exam, whichever comes first. (Education Code 37254)~~

~~(cf. 1312.4 – Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)
(cf. 6164.2 – Guidance / Counseling Services)~~

~~In addition to intensive remedial instruction, the district shall offer students who have passed all state and local graduation requirements except one or both parts of the exit exam the following options for two years beyond their regular senior year or until they pass the exam, whichever occurs first:~~

1. ~~Continuation High School Focused Instruction~~

2. ~~Independent Study Program~~

3. ~~Summer Intervention Classes~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students who have fulfilled all local and state graduation requirements except for the passage of the exit exam and the resources that have been offered to such students.~~

~~Certificates of Completion~~

~~Students who have passed all the district's course requirements by the end of their senior year but are unable to pass the high school exit exam shall receive a certificate of completion.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students receiving a certificate of completion and the resources that have been offered to such students.~~

Education Code 60851.5, as added by SB 172 (Ch. 572, Statutes of 2015), provides that the administration of the California High School Exit Examination and the requirement that each student completing grade 12 successfully pass the exam as a condition of receiving a diploma or graduating from high school are suspended for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years.

All BHUSD students deserve the opportunity to be fully informed about and to participate in the course work required for California public university admission. BHUSD will provide every high school student with the current list of courses certified by the University of California (UC) as meeting course requirements, "a-g courses" for freshman admission to the California State University (CSU) and UC.

BHHS shall provide a full pre-collegiate program that includes adequate sections to accommodate all students and actively counsel students to enter these courses. There will be no policy or practice directing any student, especially for cultural or linguistic reasons, away from choosing a college preparatory program. (SB 1339 reinforces and extends existing Education Code 51228(a)).

The district shall provide a wide variety of safety net programs, including double periods of math classes, early morning classes, late afternoon classes, tutoring, mentoring and e-mentoring.

All courses used to satisfy graduation requirements shall be approved by the Board. Additional graduation requirements must be approved by the Board.

Remedial instruction shall be provided to any student who does not show adequate progress toward mastery of basic skills. This instruction may be provided in summer school and shall offer the student numerous opportunities to achieve mastery. When a student does not show adequate progress, the Superintendent or designee shall inform a student's parent/guardian in

writing that the student shall not receive a high school diploma unless the prescribed standards are met. 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 the law.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

~~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~~
~~51225.1— Exemption from district graduation requirements~~
~~51225.2— Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course~~
~~51225.3— High school 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~~
~~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.esba.org>~~
~~California Department of Education, High School: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gc/hs>~~
~~University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>~~

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 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*
- 51225.1 *Exemption from district graduation requirements*
- 51225.2 *Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course*
- 51225.3 *High school 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*
- 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*
- 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*

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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>

Policy BEVERLY HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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