

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Graduation Requirements
Code	217
Status	Active
Adopted	November 25, 2013
Last Revised	March 28, 2016

Purpose

The Board shall acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by awarding diplomas and certificates at fitting graduation ceremonies.

Authority

The Board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve in accordance with state regulations.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

The Board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements of graduation established by this Board.[\[1\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[15\]](#)

The Board shall permit a student with a disability, whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) prescribes continued educational services, and who has attended four (4) years of high school, to participate in commencement ceremonies with his/her graduating class and receive a certificate of attendance. The student may receive a high school diploma when s/he completes his/her Individualized Education Program (IEP).[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[18\]](#)[\[19\]](#)[\[1\]](#)[\[9\]](#)

A list of all candidates for the award of a diploma shall be submitted to the Board for its approval.

A requirement for graduation shall be the completion of required assessments, work, and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades 9 through 12, which shall be aligned with established state academic standards. The Board shall identify the planned courses and activities for which credit toward graduation shall be awarded.[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[9\]](#)

Beginning with the class of 2017, the Board requires that each candidate for graduation shall have earned at least 25.7 credits at Cochranon Junior/Senior High School and 26.0 credits at Meadville Area Senior High School.

<u>Planned Courses</u>	<u>Credits Academic</u>	<u>Credits CCCTC</u>
English	4	4
Social Studies	3-4	3-4
Science	3-4	3-4
Math	3-4 2	3-4 1

Computer Science/Applications

Arts/Humanities	2	2
P.E./Health	2.2 CJSH 2.5 MASH	2.2 CJSH 2.5 MASH
Electives	4.5	5.5
Total Credits	25.7 CJSH 26.0 MASH	25.7 CJSH 26.0 MASH

All students must take a total of 11.0 credits in Math, Science and Social Studies. The district recommends that students complete at least one (1) math, science and social studies credit in their 9th, 10th, and 11th grade years.

The fourth year of high school shall not be required for graduation if a student has completed all requirements for graduation and attends a postsecondary institution as a full-time student. [\[12\]](#)[\[13\]](#)

A student may qualify for graduation by attending a district school part-time when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution. [\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for preparation of suitable diplomas, and planning and executing graduation ceremonies that appropriately recognize this important achievement.

Guidelines

Accurate recording of each student's achievement of established state academic and common core standards shall be maintained, as required by law and state regulations. [\[15\]](#)[\[16\]](#)

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed of graduation requirements students are required to complete.

Periodic warnings shall be issued to students in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements. [\[17\]](#)

A student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall not be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but the student may be denied participation in the graduation ceremony when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.

Diplomas for Eligible Veterans

In order to honor and recognize honorably discharged eligible veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who meets the applicable requirements of law and completes the required application. [\[4\]](#)

Upon proper application, the Board may award a diploma posthumously to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.

The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval the names of veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War who are eligible for a high school diploma.

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 4.24
2. 22 PA Code 4.51
3. 22 PA Code 4.52
4. 24 P.S. 1611
5. 24 P.S. 1613
6. 24 P.S. 1614
7. 22 PA Code 11.27
8. Pol. 113
9. 22 PA Code 4.12
10. Pol. 102
11. Pol. 127
12. 22 PA Code 11.4
13. 22 PA Code 11.8
14. 22 PA Code 11.5
15. Pol. 213
16. Pol. 216
17. Pol. 212
18. 34 CFR 300.102
19. 34 CFR 300.305
- 34 CFR Part 300
- Pol. 233