

## Dickson County Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in December</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Graduation Requirements</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>4.605</b>	Issued Date: <b>09/19/19</b>
		Rescinds: <b>4.7060</b>	Issued: <b>03/09/09</b>

1 To meet the requirements for graduation, a student shall have attained an approved attendance, conduct and subject  
2 matter record which covers a planned program of education, and such record shall be kept on file in the high  
3 school.

4 The program of studies shall include areas and content in these areas within State Board of Education Regulations  
5 and shall be flexible enough to facilitate progress from one stage of development to another, thus providing for  
6 more effective student adjustment.

7 The pattern of courses which shall be required of all students in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) shall be in  
8 accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Education and the Board of Education.

9 Before graduation, every student shall [1] achieve the specified units of credit; [2] take the required end of course  
10 exams;<sup>5</sup> [3] have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct, [4] Complete an ACT and [5] Pass a United  
11 States civic test.<sup>3</sup>

12 So that students are on-track to graduate, struggling students shall be identified as early as possible in the school  
13 year, by means of student information system, progress reports and phone calls. Parents shall be notified when  
14 areas of concern are identified and shall be informed periodically of remedial efforts and progress. Schools will  
15 notify parent/guardians in writing, as soon as possible, to inform them that their student's participation in  
16 graduation ceremonies are in jeopardy.

### 17 **Special Education Students<sup>1, 4</sup>**

18 Special education students who successfully complete their Individualized Educational Program (IEP), pass the  
19 required competency assessment and have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct shall be awarded a  
20 regular diploma. A special education diploma<sup>5</sup> shall be awarded to students who have satisfactorily completed  
21 their IEP and who have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct, completed four years of high school, but  
22 who have not met the proficiency testing requirements.

### 23 *Occupational Diploma*

24 Special education students who do not meet the requirements for a high school diploma may be awarded an  
25 occupational diploma if the student has:<sup>5</sup>

- 26 1. satisfactorily completed their IEP;
- 27 2. maintained satisfactory records of attendance and conduct;
- 28 3. completed the occupational diploma Skills, Knowledge, and Experience Mastery Assessment (SKEMA);
- 29 4. completed at least four (4) years of high school; and
- 30 5. has two (2) years of paid or non-paid work experience.

31 The decision to attain an occupational diploma shall be made at the conclusion of the student's tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) grade  
32 year, or two (2) academic years prior to the expected graduation date. Students who have received an occupational

1 diploma shall continue to make progress towards a high school diploma until the end of the school year in which  
2 they turn twenty-two (22) years old.

3 *Alternate Academic Diploma*

4 Special education students who do not meet the requirements for a high school diploma may be awarded and  
5 alternate academic diploma if the student has:<sup>4</sup>

- 6 1. Completed at least four years of high school
- 7 2. Participated in the high school alternate assessment;
- 8 3. Earned the prescribed number of minimum credits;
- 9 4. Made satisfactory progress on their IEP;
- 10 5. Maintained satisfactory records of attendance and conduct; and
- 11 6. Completed a transition assessment that measures postsecondary education and training, employment,  
12 interdependent living and community involvement.

13 **STUDENT LOAD**

14 All full time students in grades 9-12 shall be enrolled each semester in subjects that produce a minimum of five  
15 units of credit for graduation per year. Students with hardships and gifted students may appeal this requirement to  
16 the director of schools and then to the Board.<sup>6</sup>

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Legal References

1. TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.06(1)
2. TCA 49-6-6001; Public Acts of 2016, Chapter. No. 844
3. TCA 49-6-408; Public Acts of 2019, Chapter No. 442; State Board of Education Policy 2.103
4. TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.03(6)
5. TCA 49-6-6005; State Board of Education Policy 2.103
6. TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.06(1)(a)(7)
7. TCA 49-6-8303; State Board of Education Policy 2.103

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Cross References

Basic Curriculum Program 4.201  
Class Ranking 4.602