

Downey Unified School District

INSTRUCTION

GRADUATION

AR 3126

A diploma of graduation shall be granted to students of good character and citizenship who satisfactorily complete the District's high school curriculum requirements. While all students will follow the program outlined, on a case by case basis the principal may adjust individual student programs to meet specific personal and education need with the approval of the Superintendent. State-mandated classes may not be waived.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2022, the prescribed course of study for students enrolled in a diploma of graduation program will include an increase from a two year to a three-year math course requirement. In addition, students must complete two years of the same world language and complete one year of a visual and performing art.

Beginning in August of 2022, a five-year timeline extension will commence for the implementation of the a-g graduation requirements for students receiving services in the SDC setting. The timeline extension also applies to students with IEPs as well as students identified through 504, SST, or other appropriate processes on a case by case basis.

This timeline extension maintains and extends the current 2022 graduation requirements through 2027 for these identified students. A waiver option for the Year 2 Language Other Than English (LOTE) requirement and "c" category mathematics requirement would be available if the student has attempted to complete the requirements and the designated team deems appropriate. All other graduation requirements remain in place and are not affected by this waiver.

Beginning with the graduating Class of 2025, students enrolled in a diploma of graduation program must complete all 15 UC/CSU "a-g" subject requirements with a passing grade.

Commencing with the graduating Class of 2027, students enrolled in a diploma of graduation program will be required to complete all 15 UC/CSU "a-g" subject requirements with a letter grade of C or better.

Meeting Curriculum Requirements Through Alternate Means

In addition to completing approved "a-g" high school coursework to meet the 15 UC/CSU subject requirements for graduation, all alternate means and provisions, including validation for mathematics and language other than English, may be used as defined and described by the University of California Office of the President and the California State University. Alternate means and provisions including validation do not yield numerical credits.

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Minimum Curriculum Requirements, Graduating Classes of 2022 and Beyond

	<u>Years</u>	<u>Semester Hours</u>
English	4	40
Social Studies	3	30
American History (10)		
American Government (5)		
Economics (5)		
World History and Geography (10)		
Physical Education	2	20
Mathematics (including Integrated Mathematics I or Algebra I)	3	30
Biological Science (Lab)	1	10
Physical Science (Lab)	1	10
Health	1/2	5
Visual or Performing Arts	1	10
Language other than English (LOTE) (Foreign Language)	2	20
 Total Required Semester Hours		 175
 Total Elective Semester Hours		 <u>45</u>
 TOTAL		 220

Students at the continuation high school must satisfactorily complete all required subjects and earn a total of 190 credits in Grades 9 through 12, as specified in AR 3210.

Academic Studies Diploma

In addition to the above requirements, any student who satisfactorily completes all 15 a-g course requirements for UC/CSU will receive a seal of recognition on the diploma for completing a rigorous college preparatory course of study.

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State Seal Diploma Programs

In addition to the above requirements, any student who satisfactorily meets the state defined requirements for the diploma seal recognition including the State Seal of Biliteracy and the Golden State Merit Diploma will receive a seal of recognition on the diploma.

Transfer Students

Students who enter the Downey Unified School District shall meet the same graduation proficiency standards required of all other students.

Graduation Exercises

All high school graduation exercises shall be the function of the school and determined by parents, students, teachers, and school administration.

No student may participate in traditional senior activities or in the graduation ceremonies unless all attendance and curriculum requirements have been completed.

Students who qualify for a certificate of achievement or a certificate of recognition may participate in traditional senior activities and graduation.

Certificate of Achievement – A certificate of achievement shall be granted to students who complete all attendance and curriculum requirements but have not met the District's graduation proficiency standards.

Certificate of Recognition – A certificate of recognition shall be granted to students with an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) who have made satisfactory progress toward IEP goals.

Early Graduation

Students who may comply with all graduation requirements by the end of the fall semester and who wish to graduate at that time must submit a letter of intent, with parent/guardian's signature, by November 1.

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Columbus High School

In addition to the Graduation Proficiency requirements, graduates of Columbus High School will be regulated by the provisions of AR 3210. Their graduation will be an exercise separate from the other high school graduations and their diplomas will be from Columbus High School as set forth in the Education Code and Title 5.

Students who qualify for a certificate of achievement or a certificate of recognition may participate in traditional senior activities and graduation ceremonies.

Certificate of Achievement – A certificate of achievement shall be granted to students who complete all attendance and curriculum requirements but have not met the District's graduation proficiency standards.

Alternative Means to Complete the Prescribed Course of Study

Students desiring to use an alternative means such as supervised work experience, other outside work experience, interdisciplinary study, or private independent study to fulfill a graduation requirement must file a written request with the principal.

The principal will establish a committee consisting of an administrator, the student's counselor, department chairman of the course in question, and a teacher to evaluate the request.

The decision of the committee will be given to the student in writing. Any appeal of the decision must be directed to the Superintendent or designee.

Approved: 10/15/62, 6/19/89, 11/17/92, 5/2/95, 2/6/96, 12/9/97, 11/21/00, 9/16/03, 3/15/05, 3/7/06, 6/26/07, 9/6/16, 10/10/17, 8/6/19, 6/15/21, 3/8/22