

6005
Academic Credits and Graduation Requirements
COVID-19 Adjustments

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the items outlined in red will apply to students wishing to graduate in the Class of 2021. These COVID-19 adjustments will be in effect for the 2020-2021 school year only.

The district shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by an accredited school district, and shall award a diploma to an option enrollment or open enrollment student if the student meets the district's graduation requirements.

Course credit is allowed only for grades 9, 10, 11, 12. Students may repeat courses in which they made failing grades, but it is not necessary to repeat courses not required for graduation.

The responsibility for determining when students are eligible to be graduated from high school is delegated by the Board of Education to the building principal.

Specific Requirements - Each student is expected to successfully complete course work in each of the following areas as listed:

Graduation Requirements Beginning with the Class of 2015

1. English: 35 credits (English I - 10 credits, English II - 10 credits, English III – 10 credits, Composition – 5 credits)
2. Oral Communications: 5 credits
3. Social Studies: 30 credits (World Cultures & Geography - 5 credits, US History – 10 credits, US Government – 5 credits)
4. Mathematics: 30 credits (Algebra I or higher 10 credits)
5. Science: 30 credits (Life Science – 10 credits, Physical Science – 10 credits)
6. Physical Education: 20 credits (Swim – 2.5 credits and Family Life Education – .5 credits)
7. Fine Arts: 10 credits
8. Career Education: 25 credits (Consumer Finance – 5 credits and Career Exploration – 5 credits)
9. Elective Courses: 55 credits

Graduation Requirements Beginning with the Class of 2021

1. English: 35 credits (Must pass Eng. 1, Eng. 2, Eng. 3 and Composition)
2. Oral Communications: 5 credits
3. Social Studies: 30 credits (Must pass World Civilization, U.S. History and American Government)
4. Mathematics: 30 credits (including 10 above pre-Algebra level)
5. Science: 30 credits. (Must pass Life Science & Chem/Physics 1)
6. Physical Education: 20 credits (Must pass Family Life Education and Fitness & Swim Foundations) (Swim PE requirement will be suspended for the Class of 2021. Students will still need 20 credits in Physical Education)
7. Fine Arts: 10 credits
8. Career Education: 25 credits (Must pass Consumer Finance and Career Exploration)
8. Elective Courses: 55 credits (45 for the Class of 2021)

All students **except 2021 Seniors** must successfully complete 240 hours of credit in grades 9-12, and attend a minimum of seven semesters.

Students in the Class of 2021 must successfully complete 200 hours of credit in grades 9-12 and must attend more than six semesters.

All students must function within the guidelines of an Individual Learning Plan.

Community Service

All students must complete 10 hours of community service for each year of attendance at Ralston High School (40 total). **The community service requirement will be suspended for the Class of 2021.**

Physical Education Waiver for students through 2020

Students may waive up to 5 credits of the physical education requirement if they begin and complete 1 full season of the following activities: pom, cheer, football, cross country, volleyball, soccer, tennis, swim, basketball, wrestling, golf, track and field, baseball, or softball. This does not change the minimum number of credits required for graduation.

Early Graduation

Students may graduate at mid-term of their senior year if they make a formal application to the Senior Counselor prior to September 15th of the Senior Year.

Students in the Class of 2021 may apply for early graduation after they have completed more than six semesters. To apply for early graduation, students must complete an application form and submit it to the principal. The principal will inform the superintendent of each completed application.

The High School Principal will review any unique circumstances related to these graduation requirements for any student and make appropriate recommendations to the Superintendent.

Pupil Progress-Secondary

Pupils in grades 9-12, with approval of the superintendent or their designee, may earn credit by correspondence from an accredited school approved by the Nebraska Department of Education, provided work is supervised by a teacher with valid Nebraska certification.

Pupils may enroll in approved night school courses that meet Nebraska Department of Education specifications, and thereby earn credit toward secondary school graduation requirements provided that approval has been granted by the superintendent or their designee.

Adopted on: **August 24, 2020**

Revised on:

Reviewed on: **August 10, 2020**