

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**Academic Requirements**

Credits – Twenty-four (24) credits are required for graduation.

Required credits are as follows for all students:

Arts Education	1 Credit
Information & Comm. Tech.	.5 Credit
English (Must include Cultural Foundations, American Studies, World Lit. and Comp., and Writing)	4.5 Credits (1 Eng. Credit per year.)
Mathematics (must include 1 unit of algebra)	3 Credits (4 Credits beginning with Class of 2019)
Sciences (must include at least 1 Credit of Physical Science and 1 Credit of Biological Science) (Lab Science)	3 Credits
Social Studies (must include 1 Credit of Cultural Foundations, 1 credit American Studies, .5 credit Government Elective, and .5 credit Economics)	3 Credits
Human Performance - Physical Ed	1.5 Credits
Wellness - Health	.5 Credit
Open Electives	7 Credits
40 hours of Service Learning	

In addition to the above requirements, the School Board may approve other academic requirements for graduation.

Awarding of Credit

Credit will be awarded in accordance with Policy IK, Earning of Credit. Additionally, a unit of credit or fraction thereof shall be given upon satisfactory completion of a course or learning experience in compliance with the district-specified curriculum and assessment standards. In some cases, course credit may also be awarded based on demonstrated mastery of the required competencies for the course. Assessment of mastery will be the responsibility of the Principal, Director of Guidance or designee and will be in accordance with Policy ILBAA, High School Competency Assessments. Credit will be awarded only once for a specific required course with the same content during the secondary school experience.

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Transfer Credits

The Principal or designee shall evaluate the transcripts of students who transfer into Windham High School from another educational program or school in or out of state in order to determine previous educational experiences toward meeting WHS graduation requirements in accordance with Policy.

Alternative Credit Options

The Superintendent may approve the granting of credit by the Principal, Director of Guidance or designee earned through alternative methods outside of regular classroom-based instruction. Such alternative methods of instruction may include extended learning opportunities, distance education, alternative learning plans, or others approved by the Superintendent or designee. Awarding of credits to be applied toward high school graduation requirements will be determined by the high school Principal, Director of Guidance or designee on a case-by-case basis. Such credit will be granted pursuant to the provisions of Policy IMBC, Alternative Credit Options and other applicable Board policies.

Diploma Options

A. Windham High School Diploma

All students, regardless of disability, must earn the credits required above and satisfy other academic requirements for graduation established by the School Board in order to receive a Windham High School diploma and be eligible for participation in graduation.

The school board has the authority to approve exemptions or waivers to the policy that all students, regardless of disability, and who are pursuing a standard diploma, must earn the required credits and satisfy all other academic requirements to be eligible to participate in graduation. The school board will consider such requests upon receipt of a written appeal, which must be submitted no later than February first of the year in which the student intends to graduate.

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B. Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion is not a diploma and is awarded to any student who has successfully completed an individual program of studies not leading to a standard diploma. Student eligible for special education that are pursuing a certificate of completion may participate in one graduation ceremony in the year determined most appropriate by the student's IEP team. For students eligible for special education, participation in graduation will not end the student's eligibility for a free appropriate public education. Students eligible for special education may continue in an approved program until such time as the student has earned a regular high school diploma or has attained the age of 21, whichever occurs first.

Legal References:Ed 306.04(a)(14), Alternative Means of Demonstrating Achievement of Graduations Competencies; Ed. 306.04 (a)(16), Credit Earned; Tracking of Graduation Competencies; Ed 306.04(a)(25), Graduation Competencies (no later than July 1, 2015); Ed 306.04(a)(26), Graduation Competencies (no later than July 1, 2015); Ed 306.141 (a)(6), Achievement of District and Graduation Competencies; Awarding of Credit; Ed 306.27, High School Curriculum, Credits, Graduation Requirements
*NHSBA Note, May 2014: Policy revised by amending "Required Subjects and Credits for High School Graduation" (Table 306-2).
 Policy revised by adding "Required Graduation Competencies by Content Areas Credit(s)" (Table 306-3).
 Changes to Legal References. Remainder of policy is unchanged.*

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