

INSTRUCTION

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to satisfy the high school graduation requirements within the Wallingford Public Schools, a student must have satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study, demonstrated proficiency in basic skills identified by the Wallingford Board of Education ("the Board") and satisfied the legally mandated number and distribution of credits required to graduate from high school.

REQUIRED COURSEWORK AND CREDITS

The Wallingford Board of Education conforms with state law regarding credits for graduation for high school.

Requirements and Limitations:

A student may earn up to three credits toward graduation requirements in programs affiliated with accredited schools or colleges outside the district within the limitations delineated in this section, provided that such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with state-wide subject matter content standards and receives prior approval from the building principal.

- A student may earn a maximum of one-half of the credit distribution requirement in any subject area in such programs. Students may only exceed this distribution requirement with prior approval from the building principal. (Ex. World Language/approved American Sign Language Course).
- A senior who does not earn sufficient credits to graduate with his/her class and does not return to school to repeat the senior year may apply credits earned in programs outside the district toward satisfying the graduation requirements. However, the credits must be consistent with the requirements of this policy and must be earned within the school year following the year in which the student should have graduated.
- A three-credit semester course at a college or university shall equate to one-half credit in the district. In all other circumstances, a credit shall require a minimum of 120 hours of school work.
- Credit shall be granted only if the student earns a minimum grade of "C" or its equivalent in the program.
- Grades earned in outside programs shall not be counted in the calculation of rank in class and/or G.P.A.
- Students are not eligible to receive credits for participation in programs for which they received stipends for their participation and must receive written permission from the building principal in advance to earn credit for participation in any such program.
- High school graduation credit will be granted to students for coursework completed during the school year or summer months at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited.
 - One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this regulation.

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- In order to receive credit, the course must be pre-approved by the High School Principal.
- The course and credit will be posted to the student's transcript upon approval of the building administration and/or at the time the course commences.
- Upon approval from the building administration, credit will be applied to credit load requirements for full-time students.

Participation in the Educational Center for the Arts Program: Students who are accepted for participation in the Educational Center for the Arts (ECA) program may earn a maximum of two credits toward graduation per year of successful participation in the program. Quality points are assigned to credit earned for successful participation.

Community Service Requirement

Community service hours must be approved by an administrator or school counselor prior to beginning the service. Forms can be obtained in the School Counseling Department or on the school website.

Students transferring to high school after grade nine will have the amount of community service hours prorated.

By the end of marking period three during their junior year, high school juniors will have completed 25 community service hours. Those students who have not met this requirement, are ineligible to participate in class activities such as the Junior Prom.

By the end of marking period three during their senior year, high school seniors will have completed the required 30 community service hours. Those students who have not met this requirement, are ineligible to participate in class activities such as the Senior Outing, Senior Prom, etc.

DEMONSTRATION OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Wallingford Public Schools shall assess each student's competency in the basic skills necessary for graduation by considering performance standards which include, but do not exclusively rely on, the student's results on the state mastery examination taken in grade ten or eleven.

Acceptable Means of Demonstrating Performance Standards: A student may demonstrate mastery of the performance standards by either of the following means:

- Achieving at or above the proficient level on the state mastery examination.
- or
- Satisfactorily completing the district's alternate criteria in the content area.

INSTRUCTION**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS****EXCEPTION FOR TRANSFERS FROM OTHER DISTRICTS**

If a student transfers into the Wallingford Public Schools after completing at least three years in a high school in a district which requires fewer than 26 credits for graduation and if the student has a minimum of 18 credits to transfer, the student will be eligible to receive a Wallingford Public Schools diploma based on the graduation credit requirements of the previous district provided that the student earns at least 7 credits in Wallingford. Such student will be exempted from Wallingford's performance standards requirement for graduation.

The superintendent shall be authorized to grant other exceptions to the graduation requirements for students transferring into the district during the junior year if unusual, extenuating circumstances would make it impossible for the student to graduate with his/her class.

Regulation Approved: 2/24/14

Regulation Revised: 04/27/15, 01/23/17, 04/23/18, 11/23/20, 02/26/24, 11/25/24