

**ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL DISTRICT
E - PROGRAM**

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

E - 4

The St. Francis School District recognizes academic honesty as the foundation for meeting graduation requirements. The School Board expects that all school work submitted in fulfillment of graduation requirements represents the original efforts of the individual graduate. In order to graduate from high school and receive a diploma, a student in the District must meet the requirements set out in this policy. The policy requirements are grounded in the District's curriculum and state law requirements applicable to granting a diploma.

1. A full credit shall be granted for all full-time, year-long courses, which shall meet for a full period each day. Additional credit may be granted for other full-time, year-long courses if they meet longer than a traditional period.
2. Each student shall be required to enroll in a minimum of six full courses each semester for a total of eight semesters. (Work experience programs and enrollment in university and technical college courses may meet an equivalent portion of this requirement.) Individual exceptions can be made with the approval of the Building Administrator.
3. Beginning with the Graduating Class of 2014, no student may be granted a high school diploma unless the student has satisfied the following criteria:

- a. Successfully completed a minimum of twenty-three (23) course credits for graduation including:

4.0 credits Language Arts
3.0 credits Social Studies (including World History, U.S. History I and II, and Government)
3.0 credits in Science
3.0 credits in Mathematics (including Algebra and Geometry)
0.5 credit Personal Finance
1.5 credits in Physical Education
0.5 credit in Health
15.5 CREDITS

- b. Of the minimum of twenty-three (23) course graduation requirements shall be the successful completion of a minimum of seven and one-half units of elective coursework, the equivalent of seven and one-half year-long courses. Of these 7.5 credits, 2.0 must be any combination of fine arts, vocational education and/or world languages.

7.5
23 TOTAL CREDITS

- c. Successfully earned 15 Merit Points, of which 5 Merit Points must be earned through approved community service. Merit points may be earned as follows or as otherwise approved by the Building Administrator.

20 hours of approved community service = 5 Merit Points

Complete participation in one co-curricular activity = 1 Merit Point

Complete participation in one varsity sport = 1 Merit Point

Attendance at 10 home spectator events = 1 Merit Point

4 hours of approved peer tutoring = 1 Merit Point

4. Adjustments to these requirements may be made for students with special education needs, students at-risk or any other student consistent with state law and established District policies and procedures.
5. Adults twenty-one years of age and older may be granted diplomas of graduation from St. Francis High School provided they have attended St. Francis High School for a minimum of one full semester and meet requirements for the current graduating class.
6. Subject to approval of the High School Administrator, guidance counselors shall establish credit for successful completion of non-sectarian courses taken by students from other high schools, accredited institutions of higher education, and accredited correspondence schools (at a rate of one credit per 150 clock hours of formal instruction). In instances where course titles for required subjects do not closely match local course titles, a curriculum content check shall be conducted.
7. The High School Administrator may grant up to three credits in elective subject area(s) to a student for experience gained in a world exchange program (at a rate of one credit per twelve weeks).
8. The High School Administrator may grant up to one credit in elective subject area(s) to a student for successful completion of non-sectarian, formal instruction (at a rate of one credit per 200 clock hours of formal instruction) offered by, but not limited to, such programs as the following: research, apprenticeship, military training by U.S. Armed Forces and courses offered by other institutions.
9. One-quarter credit shall be the minimum credit granted for a class or program.
10. The High School Administrator shall determine whether a student has satisfied the criteria in this policy. Any question regarding the Administrator's decision shall be directed to the Superintendent of Schools.

Early Graduation:

Students who will complete their graduation requirements by the end of the first semester of the senior year and who wish to be considered for early graduation must contact their counselor and request, in writing by the student and his/her parent or guardian, early graduation no later than the date that course selections are due for their senior year of High School. A student/parent-guardian/counselor conference will be held to discuss the request and develop a plan of action to aid the student in this endeavor. An exit conference will be required prior to the student leaving school at mid-year. Final approval rests on the discretion of the Administrator. Students who graduate early may participate in the graduation ceremonies of their class in June of the current school year.

/original signed/

Clerk

Adopted: February 8, 2001
Revised: February 1, 2010