

GRADUATION

In order for a student to graduate from the School District of West Salem, the student must complete one of the following:

A. Diploma

23 credits, of which 15 credits are required under State Statute [ss.118.33(1)(a) 1 and 2]: (4 credits in English/language arts, 3 in social studies, 3 in mathematics, 3 in science, 1.5 in physical education, and .5 in health education. In addition, the district requires that each student complete .5 credit in financial literacy, .5 credit in social studies, and successful completion of a Senior Exit Project. Students must be enrolled in a class or have participated in a board-approved activity for each class period for each day or enrolled in an alternative educational program [ss.118.33(1)(b)].

B. District Diploma

A Student can earn a District Diploma in one of two ways:

1. Attain 17.5 credits, of which 15 credits are required under State Statute [ss.118.33(1)(a) 1 and 2]: (4 credits in English/language arts, 3 in social studies, 3 in mathematics, 3 in science, 1.5 in physical education, .5 in health education, and successful completion of a Senior Exit Project. In addition, the district requires that each student complete 2.5 elective credits. The District Diploma is an alternative diploma only available as part of a high school pupil services team approved educational plan. The high school pupil services team is comprised of an administrator, school psychologist, school counselors, school nurse, and the high school at-risk teacher. Students must be enrolled in a class or have participated in a board-approved activity for each class period for each day or enrolled in an alternative educational program [ss.118.33(1)(b)]. Students who earn a district diploma are eligible to participate in commencement ceremonies.

OR

2. Earn a high school equivalency diploma (HSED) from the State of Wisconsin through an approved technical school program. Students enrolled in an HSED program and interested in earning a diploma through the School District of West Salem must be pre-approved by the high school pupil services team or through their IEP. Students who earn a district diploma through an HSED program are not eligible to participate in commencement ceremonies.

The high school principal shall be responsible for the general supervision and management of the graduation policy. The high school principal shall verify whether a student has satisfied the criteria in this policy.

Credits earned toward graduation, other than through the district's regular curriculum, shall be documented as such on a student's transcript.

The district shall notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student when he/she is in jeopardy of failing his/her course of study and when he/she fails to meet established graduation requirements as soon as this information is known.

By the second Friday in May, teachers shall determine if the possibility exists that a senior will not pass his/her course of study for the semester or school year. If such a possibility exists, the teacher must immediately notify both the office and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) through the use of a deficiency report. The report should specifically detail what must be accomplished in the remaining class periods in order for the student to pass the course. However, if it is impossible for the student to pass the course, this fact should be stated.

If a senior has not fulfilled established graduation requirements, a letter shall be sent by the high school principal to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and superintendent indicating non-graduation status.

If a senior does not satisfy established graduation requirements, his/her high school diploma shall not be issued until the graduation requirements have been fulfilled. A conference shall be required to discuss possible alternative programs for earning a high school diploma.

Specific accommodations for students with exceptional educational interests, needs or requirements, may be provided in accordance with state law.

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes Sections
115.92
118.153
118.33
121.02(1) (p)
PI 18, Wisconsin Administrative Code

CROSS REF. 345.5-Rule, Notification of Graduation Status
345.51, Early Graduation
345.52, Commencement Ceremony

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