

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION COMPETENCIES

For the purposes of assessment of high school course work through the demonstration of student mastery of course competencies, the following definitions are established:

- (1) "Competencies" means student learning targets that represent key content-specific concepts, skills, and knowledge applied within or across content domains. Specific and required types of competencies include district competencies and graduation competencies.
- (2) "District competencies" mean specific types of competencies that are common across the district and organized in developmental progressions that lead to achievement of graduation competencies.
- (3) "Graduation competencies" means specific types of competencies that are common across the district and define learning expectations for each student for graduation from high school.
- (4) "Mastery" means a high level of demonstrated proficiency with regard to a competency.

Course credit will be awarded through the demonstration of a student's mastery of the competencies of the course. Course credit granted through demonstration of mastery will be counted through traditional methods. Grades and credit granted through demonstration of mastery will be included in the student's grade point average. Students must be enrolled in the particular course in order to receive course credit.

Students who are involved in an approved extended learning opportunity to satisfy course requirements in whole or in part shall demonstrate mastery through a method or methods as approved by the course instructor, as specified in Policy IHBH.

Credit may be used to fulfill prerequisites for other courses and/or subject area credit requirements for graduation. Credit will not be granted, however, for a course in a subject area lower in course sequence than one for which the student has already earned credit.

The Superintendent shall establish rules for implementing this policy in cooperation with the high school Principal and shall be responsible for ensuring that all high school courses include appropriate comprehensive assessments. Competency Assessments will be selected, conducted, and reviewed in conjunction with the provisions of Policy ILBA.

Assessments shall be aligned with clearly defined educational standards that specify what students should know and be able to do. The assessment items and tasks shall be valid and appropriate representations of the standards students are expected to achieve. Assessment standards, tasks, procedures, and uses shall be fair to all students.

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules:

Ed 306.02(d), Competencies

Ed 306.02(g), District competencies

Ed 306.02(j), Graduation competencies

Ed 306.02(l), Mastery

Ed 306.04(a)(16), Tracking Achievement of Graduation Competencies

Ed 306.04(a)(25), (26), Graduation competencies

Ed 306.141(a)(6), Achievement of District and Graduation Competencies

Legal References Disclaimer: *These references are not intended to be considered part of this policy, nor should they be taken as a comprehensive statement of the legal basis for the Board to enact this policy, nor as a complete recitation of related legal authority. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.*

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