INSTRUCTION 2700P

# **High School Graduation Requirements**

#### **Publication of Graduation Requirements**

Prior to registering for high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

# **High School Graduation Requirements**

In order for students to participate in the Snake River High School graduation exercises and receive their high school diploma, students must have satisfactorily completed four (4) years of attendance in grades nine through twelve (9-12); be enrolled at Snake River High School; and meet the following requirements. Special Education students successfully completing their Individual Education Plan (IEP), leading to completion of high school, will be awarded a diploma.

# Credit Requirements

To receive a diploma from Snake River High School, a student must earn a minimum of the credits listed below according to their year of graduation, and successfully pass local and state exiting standards.

Required Courses	<b>Credit Requirements</b>
English	8
Senior Project	1
Speech	1
Mathematics (4 years recommended)	8
Business Computer Applications	1
Economics and Financial Literacy	1
Intro. U.S. History	1
U.S. History	2
American Government	2
Science	8
Humanities	2
Practical Arts	1
Health Education	1
Physical Education	2
Career Pathways	1
Advisory Class	4
Total Electives Required for Graduation	20
Total Credits Required for Graduation	64

Students may earn up to 72 credits during high school (beginning with Class of 2017).

Dual credit engineering and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades 9 through 12, including AP Computer Science and dual credit computer Science courses may be counted as mathematics. Students who choose to take Computer Science and Dual Credit Engineering may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit FOUR YEARS OF MATH ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

Two of the student's secondary science credits must be for laboratory sciences. Up to 2 credits in dual credit engineering and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades 9 through 12, including AP Computer Science, Dual Credit Computer Science, may be used as science credits. Students who choose to take computer science and Dual Credit Engineering may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit.

Students must complete Algebra I and Geometry to graduate from high school.

Physical Education—two credit requirement.

Students who participate for one (1) season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) or club sport recognized by the district or eighteen (18) weeks of a sport recognized by the district may choose to substitute participation up to one (1) credit of physical education at the discretion of the administration and the PE Department. Students must show mastery of the content standards for physical education in a format provided by the District.

Each student shall receive a minimum of 1 class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR to include the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course.

Note: All documentation about grades and credits for courses taken by correspondence, in night school, at a college or university, in summer school, or in a community education class, must be received in writing from the accredited agency by the Snake River High School counseling office in time to be processed and approved by counselor and principal before graduation practice.

**Senior Project:** A student shall complete a senior project that includes a research paper and oral presentation by the end of grade twelve. The project must include elements development of a thesis using experiential learning or integrated project based learning experiences. Completion of a postsecondary certificate or degree at the time of high school graduation or an approved preinternship or internship program may be used to satisfy this requirement.

**Mastery-Based Learning:** A student may achieve credits by demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards as defined and approved by the District. The Board will appoint a committee to develop a process whereby students may be awarded credit upon demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards.

**Waiver of Requirement:** Graduation requirements generally will not be waived except as outlined in the Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule portion of this policy. However, in rare and unique hardship circumstances, the principal may recommend and the Superintendent may approve minor deviation from the graduation requirements.

## Junior High School Credit

If a junior high school student completes any required high school course with a grade of C or higher before entering the 9th grade, and if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school and the course is taught by a teacher certified to teach high school content, then the student has met the high school content area requirement for such course. The student shall be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and such grade and the number of credit hours assigned to the course shall be transferred to the student's high school transcript and the student's parent or guardian shall be notified in advance when credits are going to be transcribed. However, the student's parent or guardian may elect to not have the credits and grade transferred to the student's high school transcript. The student still must complete the required number of credits in all high school core subjects identified above in addition to the courses completed in middle school.

# Early Completion of Graduation Requirements

A student who completes all of the graduation requirements set forth above prior to the completion of eight semesters of school attendance in grades 9 through 12 may petition the Superintendent and Board for early graduation by submitting such a petition to the Superintendent through the building principal. The Superintendent shall submit the petition to the Board for endorsement and approval at the end of the quarter preceding the requested graduation date.

#### Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule

A student may, at the student's option and upon notification to the student's school, be relieved from completing their remaining high school graduation requirements and apply for a flexible schedule or graduate early if the student:

- 1. Is at least 16 years of age;
- 2. Maintains a cumulative 3.5 grade point average (Each student will be considered individually);
- 3. Obtains permission from a parent/guardian, if under the age of 18;
- 4. Achieves a college and career readiness score;
- 5. The required civics test;
- 6. The economics credit, government credits, and senior project required to graduate. A student's senior project may describe the student's experience in achieving a college and career readiness score and a detailed explanation of the student's future plan;
- 7. Files the following with the school:

- A. Notification of their intent to take a flexible schedule OR graduate early;
- B. The student's participation portfolio; and
- C. An essay of at least one page explaining why the student wishes to have a flexible schedule which must include the future plans using the flexible schedule OR early graduation;

Students eligible for a flexible schedule may be relieved from high school graduation requirements in order to:

- 1. Take elective courses, career technical education programs, or courses selected by the student which are available within the District;
- 2. Participate in apprenticeships or internships;
- 3. Act as a tutor at any grade level; or
- 4. Engage in such other activities identified by the Board.

A student who is granted a flexible schedule must adhere to the plan submitted to the school as a part of their eligibility. Students who are under 18 may modify their plan with the approval of the student's parent/guardian.

#### Procedure History:

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