

Descriptor Term: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	Descriptor Code: IHF-P
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Beginning with the incoming Freshman class of 2006-2007, students must meet all state and local course requirements, pass the Computer Competency Test, demonstrate proficiency on the Algebra I, English I, Biology, US History, and Civics and Economics End-of-Course tests (EOCs), complete a Graduation Project, and complete at least 20 units (Saturn, SCALE, Twilight School or Middle Colleges), 22 units of study (non-block) or 28 units of study (block) in the chosen course pathways.

Graduation Project

As an exit requirement, students must complete a Graduation Project based on the SBE Policy HSP-N-004. Students will select a topic in which s/he will submit a research paper, create a product, design a portfolio, and participate in an oral presentation. The product component will require the documentation of at least 20 hours of work. Required state rubrics will be used to score the projects.

Graduation Projects will be counted as 25% of the student's final grade. The culmination of the Graduation Project will occur in English 12 unless the school specifically designates another curriculum area for the student to show his or her mastery. All students that are required to participate in statewide assessments also have to pass all four components of the North Carolina Graduation Project; Occupational Course of Study (OCS) students may have a modified Graduation Project.

Graduation Exit Standards

To be eligible for graduation, students must demonstrate proficiency in Algebra I, English I, Biology, US History, and Civics and Economics. As with all EOC tests, 25% of the grade is based on successful completion (Level III or higher).

1. If a student fails the course but scores a Level III or Level IV on the EOC, the student will receive an incomplete and enter grade recovery through summer school or an extended learning program to earn a passing grade.
2. If a student passes the course but fails the EOC, parents will be informed of retest opportunities and the dates for the extended learning summer session. The student will receive an incomplete and will be eligible for retests or review as indicated below.

Students will be given two retest opportunities (see IKEA-P). The first retest opportunity must be preceded by focused intervention/remediation. The retesting, remediation, and review process for students not passing the EOC will consist of the following steps:

- Students will be given a retest after ~~a ten-day~~ focused intervention.
- If a student does not pass the first retest, the student receives remediation through summer school or an extended learning program.
- The second retest occurs.
- If the student does not pass the second retest, documentation (e.g. a portfolio) of the student's performance in the EOC is updated.
- The student's documentation (e.g. a portfolio) is reviewed by an external review committee to determine if the standard for that course has been met. The Appeals Review committee has the option of recommending that the student retake the course, be provided additional remediation, or based on

the documentation, has met the requirements for the exit standard associated with the course.

- The principal reviews the recommendation by the committee and makes the final decision regarding the student meeting the exit standard for the course. In determining the appropriate placement, the principal shall consider the student's classroom work and grades, the student's scores on standardized tests, and the best educational interest of the student.

External Review Committee Composition

The external review committee should consist of teachers, principals and central office staff members from the county. An Exceptional Children's (EC) Services specialist must be present if the student has exceptional needs. A limited English proficient (LEP) teacher must be present if the student is identified as LEP.