



No. 217
SECTION: Pupils
TITLE: Graduation
Requirements
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Graduation Requirements

1 PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (the Board) will acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by awarding a diploma at graduation ceremonies.

2 AUTHORITY

The Board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve, which shall include course completion and grades, completion of a culminating project, results from district and state assessments and alternative assessments or graduation pathways if deemed appropriate.

The High School Principal or designee shall submit to the Board for its approval a list of all candidates for the award of a diploma.

Title 22 Sec. 4.24 SC

Act 1 of 2022

Act 158 of 2018

3 GUIDELINES

A requirement for graduation shall be the completion of work and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades nine (9) through twelve (12).

The Board requires that each candidate for graduation, who was educated at Renaissance Academy for four years of high school, shall have earned at least

twenty-three (23) credits, while meeting the requirements below, to receive a diploma and be involved in the commencement ceremony.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

English - 4 Credits

Mathematics - 4 Credits

Science - 4 Credits

Social Science - 4 Credits

World Language - 3 Credits

Arts / Humanities - 1.5 Credits

Physical Education - 1.5 Credits

Health - .5 Credits

Commencement Project - .5 Credits

COURSE COMPLETION AND GRADES:

Demonstration of proficiency as determined by the charter school in each of the State academic standards not assessed by a State assessment under § 4.51, § 4.51a or § 4.51b (relating to State assessment system; Keystone Exams).

Demonstration of proficiency or above in each of the following State academic standards: English Language Arts and; Science and Technology and Environment and Ecology, as determined through the following:

Completion of secondary level coursework in English Language Arts (Literature), Algebra I and Biology in which a student demonstrates proficiency on the associated Keystone § 4.4(d)(4)

Requirments beginning in the 2022-2023 school year: Graduation Pathway will be enacted for students. Pathway completion shall be subject to the progamming at the Charter School and determined by the high school principal or their designee.

The Board requires that each candidate for graduation, who transfers into Renaissance Academy, after the pupil's freshman year, will earn all credits attainable while at Renaissance Academy, in an effort to meet the above graduation requirements and Graduation Pathway.

These responsibilities shall include:

- Careful recording of the pupils' progress towards meeting the requirements of graduation, as determined by the Board and State Regulations.
- Pupil counseling concerning graduation requirements.
- Timely warnings to pupils who are not fulfilling graduation requirements, and Preparation of diplomas for graduating pupils.
- Review of the pupils qualifications for waivers based on Act 1 of 2022 pertaining to those who experience educational instability.

PART-TIME COLLEGE ATTENDANCE

Students currently enrolled in the 11th & 12th Grade may arrange college level courses, subject to restrictions noted above concerning pre-approval, continuing communication between the Charter School and college officials; must maintain a grade of “C” (or the Charter School equivalent) average in college level classes, and must conform with the State Board of Education curriculum regulations for dual high school and college enrollment.

Courses arranged by Renaissance Academy will be subject to the same admissions criteria as noted above. Pre-approved college courses may be substituted for graduation requirements imposed by the charter school.

LOGISTICS

Students who attain a score at the advanced level of proficiency on Keystone Exams will be recognized by the Charter School in a celebratory manner to be determined by the High School Principal.

Every student who is eligible, per State Standards, to retake the state assessment, will use that opportunity to re-take one, or more of the assessments, throughout their sophomore and junior years.

The fourth year of high school shall not be required if the pupil has been accepted by an accredited institution of higher learning and has completed all requirements for graduation.

A student may qualify for graduation by attending the Charter School part time when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution.

No pupil who has completed graduation requirements may be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure. A pupil may be denied participation in the graduation ceremony when personal conduct warrants. This exclusion will be considered as school suspension.

EARLY COLLEGE ADMISSIONS / ATTENDANCE

Pupils requesting participation in an early college admissions program must submit a written request or application consented to by their parent or guardian, through their high school counselor, and High School Principal who shall confer with the pupil and parent/guardian prior to recommending the request for approval by the CEO and Board.

Pupils who request permission for early admissions / attendance application must be in at least the 11th grade, be achieving an average of “B” in their high school level classes, and have been in attendance at Renaissance Academy for one (1) complete semester.

The pupil must maintain a “C” average in his/her freshman year college work and must be considered a full-time pupil before Renaissance Academy will approve a request for a Renaissance Academy diploma. Credits presented for the diploma must include all courses mandated by the State Board of Education, and Renaissance Academy; which have not been completed prior to college entrance.

To graduate as an honor student, the pupil shall have a culmination honor GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 Scale, Dean's List or Honor Average as determined by the college. Students participating in early college admissions programs during their senior year will not be

eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian status. Students following this plan are ineligible for tobe valedictorian or a commencement speaker.

It shall be the obligation of the pupil to maintain communication with the Charter School before leaving for college in September and between semesters to finalize details of graduation and for information concerning student activities.

Title 22 Sec. 11.4, 4.24