

Policy 505.5: Graduation Requirements

Status:
ADOPTED

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“Competency-based education” means that learners advance through content or earn credit based on demonstration of proficiency in competencies. Proficiency for this context is the demonstrated skill or knowledge required to advance to and be successful in higher levels of learning in that content area. Some students may advance through more content or earn more credit than in a traditional school year while others might take more than a traditional school year to advance through the same content and to earn credit. A student must meet the requirements of 12.5(14) to be awarded credit in a competency-based system of education.

A unit is a course which meets one of the following criteria: it is an equated requirement as a part of an innovative program filed as prescribed in rule 281–12.9(256).

English/LA - English 9 (2 units), English 10 (2 units), English 11 (2 units), English 12 (2 units) speaking; listening; reading; writing; viewing; and visual expression and nonverbal communication, language learning and creative, logical, and critical thinking, communication processes and skills; written composition; speech

Social Studies - American History (2 units), Government (1 unit), Economic (1 unit), and 1 of the following choices: Human Geography (1 unit), Psychology (1 unit), Sociology (1 unit), African American History (1 unit), Current Issues (1 unit), Financial Literacy (1 unit), World History (2 units), Applications, Perspectives and Exploration of Psychology (1 unit), Iowa History and Geography (1 unit), US Issues and Analysis (1 unit),

Mathematics - Pre-algebra (2 units), Algebra I (2 units), Geometry (2 units), Algebra II (2 units), Calculus (2 units), Transition Math (2 units), Financial Algebra (2 units), General Math (2 units), general math (2 units), consumer math (2 units), 4 sequential units in math algebra, geometry, trigonometry, statistics, probability, and discrete mathematics problem solving, reasoning, and structure; language and symbolism to communicate mathematical ideas; and connections among mathematical topics and between mathematics and other disciplines.

Science - General Science (2 units), Biology (2 units), Physical Science (2 units), Chemistry (2 units), Energy for the Future (1 unit), Agronomy (1 unit), Animal Science (1 unit), Anatomy/Physiology (2 units), Astronomy (2 units), Botany (1 unit), Conceptual Chemistry (2 units), Earth Space Science (1 unit), Electricity/Electronics (1 unit), Entomology (1 unit), Environmental Science (2 units), Forensics (2 units), Genetics (1 unit), Herpetology (1 unit), Marine Science (2 units), Meteorology (1 unit), Microbiology (1 unit), Zoology (2 units)

Health - 1 unit

Physical Education - 2 units or excused based on academic/athletic program participation

Fine Arts - Art 1 (1 unit), Photography (2 units), Digital Art (1 unit), Drawing Fundamentals (1 unit), Theater (2 units)

Foreign Lang. - Spanish 1 (2 units) , Spanish 2 (2 units), Spanish 3 (2 units), Spanish 4 (2 units), Heritage Spanish (2 units),

Career Tech Ed - Introduction to Business (1 unit), Career Development (1 unit), Career (1 unit), Child Development 1 (1 unit), Child Development 2 (1 unit), Textiles and Clothing 1 (1 unit), Textiles and Clothing 2 (1 unit), Textiles and Clothing 3 (1 unit), Textiles and Clothing 4 (1 unit),

Work-based Experience Iowa WorkForce Development, Electrician/Plumber/Construction/Brick-Layers Unions, Central Iowa Works, and other business partners- collaborative J-term laboratory courses (1 unit each) TBD. Student in school-to-work is an “employee” for worker’s compensation law.

LEGAL REF.: Iowa Code §§ 256.11; 279.8; 280.3; 280.14
281 I.A.C. 12.2; 12.5; 41.12(6)(e).

CROSS REF.: 603.3 Special Education