

**INSTRUCTION**

**Graduation Requirements/Completion Certificate**

The Superintendent desires to prepare all students to obtain a high school diploma to enable them to take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and employment.

A student shall be eligible for a diploma of graduation from El Dorado County Office of Education (EDCOE) schools, who, while grades 9 to 12, inclusive, has completed at least the following number of courses and credits listed on the chart in the subjects specified.

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Credits Required</b>	<b>UC Required Courses/Credits</b>	<b>CSU Required Courses/Credits</b>
English	40	40	40
Mathematics	30*	30	30
History/Social Studies	30	20	20
Science	20	20 (20 lab)	20 (20 lab)
Foreign Language	10	20	20***
or			
Visual/Performing Arts	10	10	10
Physical Education	20		
Health	5		
Academic Electives		10**	10
<u>Electives</u>	<u>85</u>		
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>240</u></b>		

\*Minimum required is completion of Algebra 1 or Mathematics 1.

\*\***UC applicants** – *Academic Electives* must be chosen from these areas: visual and performing arts, history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and foreign language.

\*\*\***CSU applicants** – *Foreign Language* requirement may be waived if the student demonstrates competence in a foreign language equivalent to 2 years of study. *Academic Electives* must be chosen from these areas: visual and performing arts, history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, foreign language and agriculture.

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Superintendent shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth, homeless students, and children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.1 and 49701. The Superintendent may grant a diploma to a veteran who entered the military service of the United States while he/she was a district student in grade 12 and who had completed the first half of the work required for grade 12. (Education Code 51440)

## **Exemptions and Waivers**

A foster youth, homeless student, or former juvenile court school student who transfers into an EDCOE school any time after completing his/her second year of high school shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code 51225.3 but shall be exempt from any additional EDCOE-adopted graduation requirements, unless the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified of the availability of the exemption and whether he/she qualifies for it.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by waiving specific course requirements for graduation if the student has satisfactorily completed similar coursework in another school.

Until July 31, 2018, any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination shall be granted a high school diploma.

## **Differential Graduation and Competency Standard for Eligible Students with Disabilities**

The Superintendent recognizes that proficiency standards adopted for students enrolled in general educational programs may not be appropriate for all students enrolled in special education programs. Students with disabilities should meet the general graduation standards to the extent their disabilities permit; however, certain students may be diagnosed with disabilities that prevent them from attaining the regularly adopted proficiency competencies. These students may need differential standards.

There are three options for meeting graduation and competency standards:

1. Students are integrated into general education courses where they master grade-level standards and complete all graduation requirements with or without accommodations as outlined in their IEP or 504 Accommodation Plan. These students will receive a general high school diploma.
2. Students are integrated into the general education course of study with modifications as outlined in their IEP. The student must pass all other graduation requirements. A general diploma will be issued, but the transcript will indicate with an asterisk courses in which standards have been modified.
3. Students will complete a course of study as outlined in their IEP. Courses will include both general and special education classes, as well as courses related to life skills and vocational skills development. Students will receive a Certificate of Completion rather than a general high school diploma.

Legal References on next page.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 49701 Provisions of Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
- 51220, et seq. Courses of study, grades 7 to 12
- 51224 Courses of study
- 51224.5 Algebra requirement
- 51225.1 Pupils in foster care, pupils who are homeless children or former juvenile court school pupils
- 51225.3 Requirements for graduation
- 51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements (except 51245 – foreign language instructors)
- 51260-51269 Drug education
- 51400-51455 Diplomas and certificates
- 51850-51854 Driver training
- 56000, et seq. Special education programs
- 60851.6 Grant of diploma; conditions

TITLE 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations

VEHICLE CODE

- 12814.8 Effectiveness of driver education programs conducted in non-classroom environment

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 1600-1651 Graduation of pupils from grade 12 and graduation credit
- 3000, et seq. Handicapped children
- 9540, et seq. Additions to lists of adopted instructional materials (reading/language arts/mathematics)
- 10020, et seq. High school courses of study
- 10040-10043 Automotive driver training