

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from High School, unless otherwise exempted, each student is responsible for:

1. Completing all District graduation requirements that are in addition to the State requirements and as listed in the current Geneseo High School Course Planning Guide. The Course Planning Guide shall be considered the primary document outlining graduation requirements, should there be conflicts with other handbook or guidebook explanations.
2. Completing all courses as provided in The School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-22, according to the year in which a student entered the 9th grade.
3. Completing all minimum requirements for graduation as specified in State law.
4. Passing an examination on patriotism and principles of representative government, proper use of the flag, methods of voting, and the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Participating in State assessments that are required for graduation in State law.
6. Filing one of the following: (1) a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Dept. of Education, (2) an application for State financial aid, or (3) an Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) waiver form indicating that the student understands what these aid opportunities are and has chosen not to file an application. If the student is not at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student's parent/guardian must file one of these documents on the student's behalf.

A student is exempt from this requirement if: (1) the student is unable to file a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver due to extenuating circumstances, (2) the Building Principal attests the District made a good faith effort to assist the student or the student's parent/guardian with filing a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver form, and (3) the student has met all other graduation requirements.

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for:

1. Maintaining a description of all course offerings that comply with the above graduation requirements.
2. Notifying students and their parents/guardians of graduation requirements.
3. Developing the criteria for #4 above.
4. Complying with State law requirements for students who transfer during their senior year because their parent(s)/guardian(s) are on active military duty. This includes making reasonable adjustments to ensure graduation if possible, or efforts to ensure that the original (transferor) school district issues the student a diploma.
5. Taking all other actions needed or necessary to implement this policy.

Early Graduation

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures for students to graduate early. In all cases of students who wish to graduate earlier than 8 semesters, the Superintendent shall hold final authority for modifications to any variance related to online courses, credit recovery, alternative or blended courses of study; and will make a final recommendation to the Board of Education for formal approval. Counselors shall stress the importance of the Plan of Study with incoming freshmen and will work closely with students and parents/guardians in monitoring and communicating any deviations.

Certificate of Completion

A student with a disability who has an Individualized Education Program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's 4 years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed 4 years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony of his or her high school graduation class. The Superintendent or designee shall provide timely written notice of this requirement to children with disabilities and their parents/guardians.

Service Member Diploma

The District will award a diploma to a service member who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the U.S. Armed Forces or an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict, provided that he or she (1) resided within an area currently within the District at the time he or she left high school, (2) left high school before graduating in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and (3) has not received a high school diploma.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64, 5/22-27, 5/27-3, 5/27-22, and 5/27-22.10.23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:320 (Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Adopted by Board Action 08/06/1991

Amended by Board Action 04/05/1994

Amended by Board Action 12/03/2001

Amended by Board Action 01/09/2008

Amended by Board Action 04/16/2009

Amended by Board Action 06/08/2017

Approved by Board Action 01/14/2021