

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

*(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)*  
*(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)*  
*(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)*  
*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*  
*(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)*

### Course Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Four courses in English (40 credits) (Education Code 51225.3) and ***passing scores on required writing benchmarks.***

*(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)*

2. Three courses (30 credits) in mathematics (Education Code 51225.3).

At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the three mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12 shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I and Geometry. (Education Code 51224.5)

Completion, prior to grade 9, of algebra coursework that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall satisfy the algebra coursework requirement, but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete three mathematics courses in grades 9-12 (Education Code 51224.5)

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*  
*(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)*

3. Two courses in science, including biological (10 credits) and physical sciences (10 credits). (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)*

4. Four courses in social studies, including United States history (10 credits) and; world history (10 credits), a one-semester course in American government and civics (5 credits); and a one-semester course in economics (5 credits). (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)*  
*(cf. 6142.93 - History-Social Science Instruction)*

Adopt with added language.

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- 5. One course in foreign language, including American Sign Language, or career technical education (10 credits). (Education Code 51225.3)

To be counted towards meeting graduation requirements, a course in career technical education shall be aligned to the career technical model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of Education.

*(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)*  
*(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)*  
*(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)*  
*(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)*

- 6. Two courses (20 credits) in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code. (Education Code 51225.3)

*(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)*

- 7. One course in visual or performing arts (10 credits).

- 8. Completion of elective credits as indicated in Exhibit E 6146.1.

- 9. The State health standards requirement will be met in the Freshman Seminar course.

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

*(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)*  
*(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)*

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth or children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.3 and 49701.

*(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)*  
*(cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)*

**10. Attendance.**

***Students must have cumulative 94% attendance record while enrolled at Point Arena High School and South Coast Continuation High School in order to graduate from Point Arena High School District.***

***2016-2017 Senior Class - 94% cumulative attendance senior year.***  
***2016-2017 Junior Class - 94% cumulative attendance in Junior and Senior year.***  
***2016-2017 Sophomore Class - 94% cumulative attendance in Sophomore, Junior and Senior year.***  
***2016-2017 Freshman Class and all others - 94% cumulative attendance while enrolled at Point***

Adopt with added language.

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*Arena High School.*

**High School Exit Examination**

~~As a condition of high school graduation, each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics unless he/she receives a waiver or exemption. (Education Code 60851, 60859)~~

~~(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)  
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)  
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)~~

Supplemental instruction shall be offered to any student in grade 7-12 who does not demonstrate "sufficient progress," as defined in BP 6179 - Supplemental Instruction, toward passing the exit exam. (Education Code 37252, 60851)

*(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)  
(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)  
(cf. 6177 - Summer School)  
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)*

Students who have not passed one or both parts of the exit exam by the end of grade 12 shall have the opportunity to receive intensive instruction and services for up to two consecutive academic years after completion of grade 12 or until they have passed both parts of the exam, whichever comes first. (Education Code 37254)

*(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)  
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)*

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students who have fulfilled all local and state graduation requirements except for the passage of the exit exam and the resources that have been offered to such students.

**Certificates of Completion**

Students who have passed all the district's course requirements by the end of their senior year but are unable to pass the high school exit exam shall receive a certificate of completion.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students receiving a certificate of completion and the resources that have been offered to such students.

**Retroactive Diplomas**

The district may retroactively grant a high school diploma to a former student who was interned by order of the federal government during World War II or who is an honorably discharged

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veteran of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, provided that he/she was enrolled in a district school immediately preceding the internment or military service and he/she did not receive a diploma because his/her education was interrupted due to the internment or military service. (Education Code 51430)

The district also may retroactively grant a diploma to a deceased former student who satisfies the above conditions. The diploma shall be received by the deceased student's next of kin. (Education Code 51430)

In addition, the district 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)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 35186 Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
- 37252 Supplemental instructional programs
- 37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12
- 37254.1 Required student participation in supplemental instruction
- 47612 Enrollment in charter school
- 48200 Compulsory attendance
- 48412 Certificate of proficiency
- 48430 Continuation education schools and classes
- 48645.5 Acceptance of coursework
- 48980 Required notification at beginning of term
- 49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
- 51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life
- 51224.5 Algebra instruction
- 51225.3 Requirements for graduation
- 51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students
- 51228 Graduation requirements
- 51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements
- 51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents
- 51410-51412 Diplomas
- 51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates
- 51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
- 51745 Independent study restrictions
- 52378 Supplemental school counseling program
- 56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education
- 60850-60859 High school exit examination
- 66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

COURT DECISIONS

O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

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CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, High School: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gc/hs>

University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>

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**Policy:**

**Adopted**

**ARENA UNION ELEMENTARY/POINT ARENA JT. UHSD**

**~~March 11, 2015~~**

**Point Arena, California**

Adopt with added language.