

## Attachment A – Ramseyer

~~[Note: This version of Board Policy 4540, Graduation and Related, shall apply to students graduating in School Years 2005-2006, 2006-2007, 2007-2008, and 2008-2009. See Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, which shall take effect School Year 2006-2007, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming ninth grade class.]~~

**4540**

### **GRADUATION AND RELATED POLICY**

~~A. Requirements for Graduation. The minimum requirements for graduation from high school, grades 9-12, are:~~

~~1. Twenty-two (22) credits of the following courses.~~

~~a. English 4.0 credits  
Social Studies 4.0 credits  
Mathematics 3.0 credits  
Science 3.0 credits  
Physical Education 1.0 credits  
Health 0.5 credits  
Guidance 0.5 credits~~

~~b. Elective credits (6)~~

~~2. Demonstrated mastery of essential competencies.~~

~~a. Competencies are the basic standards of proficiency required of students who have completed course and credit requirements.~~

~~b. Mastery shall be determined in accordance with established Department procedures.~~

~~B. Commencement Exercises. Commencement exercises may be scheduled any time after the last day of school for seniors. The last day of school for seniors shall be set by the Department. Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement exercises if they (1) meet the requirements for a diploma or a certificate, (2) have fulfilled their financial obligations, and (3) meet other conditions, established by the Department, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness, and justifiability.~~

~~Former Code No. 5127~~

~~Approved: 5/47~~

~~Amended: 1/59, 6/59, 6/60, 9/60, 2/64, 8/78, 3/88, 3/97]~~

**Note: This version of Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, shall take effect School Year 2006-2007, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming ninth grade class.**

**4540**

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT POLICY**

A. Requirements for High School Graduation. The purpose of high school graduation requirements is to establish rigorous standards of learning that will enable all public school students to meet the vision of a Hawaii public school graduate. All Hawaii public school graduates will:

- Realize their individual goals and aspirations;
- Possess the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary to contribute positively and compete in a global society;
- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Pursue post-secondary education and/or careers without need for remediation.

Students who demonstrate proficiency in the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards and General Learner Outcomes in the required courses shall receive a high school diploma. Students who meet additional requirements established by the Board of Education shall receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma. Proficiency shall be determined in accordance with established Department of Education procedures.

The minimum course and credit requirements to receive a high school graduation diploma and the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma are:

| <b>Course Requirements</b>            | <b>High School Diploma</b>                  | <b>Board of Education Recognition Diploma</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>English *</b>                      | 4.0 credits                                 | 4.0 credits                                   |
| <b>Social Studies **</b>              | 4.0 credits                                 | 4.0 credits                                   |
| <b>Mathematics</b>                    | 3.0 credits                                 | 3.0 credits                                   |
| <b>Science</b>                        | 3.0 credits                                 | 3.0 credits                                   |
| <b>World Language</b>                 | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   |
| <b>Fine Arts</b>                      |   |   |
| <b>Career and Technical Education</b> |   |   |

|                                  |              |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Senior Project</b>            | Not required | 1.0 credit   |
| <b>Physical Education</b><br>*** | 1.0 credit   | 1.0 credit   |
| <b>Health</b>                    | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   |
| <b>Personal/Transition Plan</b>  | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   |
| <b>Electives</b>                 | 6.0 credits  | 6.0 credits  |
|                                  |              |              |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 24.0 credits | 25.0 credits |

\* English shall include English Language Arts 1 (1.0 credit) and English Language Arts 2 (1.0 credit).

\*\* Social Studies shall include Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit).

\*\*\* Physical Education shall include required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and a required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit).

A Board of Education Recognition Diploma shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

High school diplomas may be granted to 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who have qualified for graduation through adult schools.

The graduation requirements for students with disabilities shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

B. Commencement Exercises. Commencement exercises may be scheduled any time after the last day of school for seniors. The last day of school for seniors shall be set by the Department of Education. Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement exercises if they: (1) meet the requirements for a diploma or a certificate; (2) have fulfilled their financial obligations; and (3) meet other conditions, established by the Department of Education, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness, and justifiability.

Former Code No. 5127

Approved: 5/47

Amended: 1/59, 6/59, 6/60, 9/60, 2/64, 8/78, 3/88, 3/97, 6/04

**Note: This version of Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, shall take effect School Year 2009-2010, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming ninth grade class.**

**4540**

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT POLICY**

A. Requirements for High School Graduation. The purpose of high school graduation requirements is to establish rigorous standards of learning that will enable all public school students to meet the vision of a Hawaii public school graduate. All Hawaii public school graduates will:

- Realize their individual goals and aspirations;
- Possess the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary to contribute positively and compete in a global society;
- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Pursue post-secondary education and/or careers without need for remediation.

Students who demonstrate proficiency in the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards and General Learner Outcomes in the required courses shall receive a high school diploma. Students who meet additional requirements established by the Board of Education shall receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma. Students who meet additional requirements established by the Board of Education and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher shall receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors. Proficiency shall be determined in accordance with established Department of Education procedures.

The minimum course and credit requirements to receive a high school graduation diploma, the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma, and the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors are:

| <b>Course Requirements</b> | <b>High School Diploma</b>  | <b>Board of Education Recognition Diploma (Voluntary)</b>  | <b>Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors (Voluntary)</b>                                      |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>English</b>             | 4.0 credits including English Language Arts 1 (1 credit) and ELA 2 (1 credit) | 4.0 credits English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing | 4.0 credits English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing |

|                                       |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                                       |   | (0.5 credit)  | (0.5 credit)  |
| <b>Social Studies</b>                 | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)           | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)           | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)           |
| <b>Mathematics</b>                    | 3.0 credits   | 4.0 credits including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II or the equivalent   | 4.0 credits including, as a minimum, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II or the equivalent                          |
| <b>Science</b>                        | 3.0 credits   | 3.0 credits including 2.0 credits in Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics   | 3.0 credits including 2.0 credits in Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics   |
| <b>World Language</b>                 | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   |
| <b>Fine Arts</b>                      |   |   |   |
| <b>Career and Technical Education</b> |   |   |   |
| <b>Senior Project</b>                 | Not required  | 1.0 credit  | 1.0 credit  |
| <b>Physical Education</b>             | 1.0 credit including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit) | 1.0 credit including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit) | 1.0 credit including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit) |
| <b>Health</b>                         | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  |
| <b>Personal/ Transition Plan</b>      | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  |
| <b>Electives</b>                      | 6.0 credits   | 5.0 credits   | 5.0 credits   |
|                                       |   |   |   |
| <b>Total</b>                          | 24.0 credits  | 25.0 credits  | 25.0 credits  |
| <b>Other</b>                          |   | Meet standard on Algebra II End of Course Exam  | Meet standard on Algebra II End of Course Exam <u>and</u>   |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  | <u>cumulative GPA of<br/>3.0 or higher</u> |
|--|--|--|--|

A Board of Education Recognition Diploma shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements.

A Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

High school diplomas may be granted to 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who have qualified for graduation through adult schools.

The graduation requirements for students with disabilities shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

B. Commencement Exercises. Commencement exercises may be scheduled any time after the last day of school for seniors. The last day of school for seniors shall be set by the Department of Education. Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement exercises if they: (1) meet the requirements for a diploma or a certificate; (2) have fulfilled their financial obligations; and (3) meet other conditions, established by the Department of Education, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness, and justifiability.

Former Code No. 5127

Approved: 5/47

Amended: 1/59, 6/59, 6/60, 9/60, 2/64, 8/78, 3/88, 3/97, 6/04, 03/06/08

**Note:** This version of Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, shall take effect School Year ~~[2009-2010]~~ 2010-2011 2011-2012, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming ~~[ninth]~~ fifth eighth grade class.

**4540**

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT POLICY

A. Requirements for High School Graduation. The purpose of high school graduation requirements is to establish rigorous standards of learning that will enable all public school students to meet the vision of a Hawaii public school graduate. All Hawaii public school graduates will:

- Realize their individual goals and aspirations;
- Possess the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary to contribute positively and compete in a global society;
- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Pursue post-secondary education and/or careers without need for remediation.

Students who demonstrate proficiency in the ~~Hawaii Content and Performance Standards~~ state standards and General Learner Outcomes in the required courses or proficiency based equivalents shall receive a high school diploma Hawaii High School Diploma. ~~Students who [meet Algebra II End-Of-Course requirements attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher shall receive a Board of Education Recognition]~~ College and Career Ready Hawaii High School Diploma with Honors. Proficiency shall be determined in accordance with established Department of Education procedures.

The minimum course and credit requirements to receive a high school graduation diploma are; ~~and the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a [Board of Education Recognition]~~ College and Career Ready Diploma are:

| Course Requirements | <del>[Board of Education Recognition]</del> <u>College and Career Ready</u> Hawaii High School Diploma <del>[(Voluntary)]</del>   | High School Diploma*   |
|---------------------|---|--|
| <b>English**</b>    | 4.0 credits <u>including</u> English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing (0.5 credit) <del>or equivalent</del> (0.5 credit) <del>or</del> <u>*newly-developed CCSS proficiency based equivalents</u> | 4.0 credits <del>including</del> English Language Arts 1 (1 credit) and <del>[ELA]</del> <u>English Language Arts 2</u> (1 credit) |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Social Studies</b>  | 4.0 <del>3.0</del> 4.0 credits <u>including World history (1.0 credit), U.S. History (1.0 credit), including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit) or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents</u> | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)             |
| <b>Mathematics***</b>  | 4.0 <u>3.0</u> credits including Algebra 1 (1 credit), Geometry (1 credit), and Algebra [II] <u>2</u> or *equivalent <u>*newly-developed CCSS proficiency based equivalents</u>  |   |
| <b>Science</b>   | 3.0 credits including <u>Biology (1. credit), and 2.0 credits in laboratory courses science (2. credits)]</u> <u>Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics] (Biology plus one) or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents</u>                          | 3.0 credits <u>(including Biology)</u>  |
| <b>World Language</b><br><b>Fine Arts</b><br><b>Career and Technical Education</b> | 2.0 credits in one of the specified [courses] <u>programs of study or *newly developed proficiency based equivalents</u>   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified [courses] <u>programs of study</u>  |
| <b>Senior Project</b>  | 1.0 <del>elective</del> credit   | Not Required  |
| <b>Physical Education</b>  | 1.0 credit [including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit)] <u>or *newly developed proficiency based equivalent</u>  | 1.0 credit [including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit)] |
| <b>Health</b>  | 0.5 credit <u>or *newly – developed proficiency based equivalent</u>   | 0.5 credit  |
| <b>Personal/ Transition Plan</b>   | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit  |



|                  |  |              |
|------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Electives</b> | 5.0 <del>76.0</del> credits, <u>may include (1.0 elective credit) for Senior Project or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents</u> | 6.0 credits  |
|                  |  |              |
| <b>Total</b>     | 25.0 <del>24.0</del> credits   | 24.0 credits |
| <b>Other</b>     | <u>[Meet standard on Algebra II End of Course Exam and cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher]</u>  |              |

A [Board of Education] ~~College and Career Ready~~ [Recognition]**Hawaii High School Diploma** shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements.

A [Board of Education Recognition] ~~College and Career Ready~~ Diploma with Honors shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

High school diplomas may be granted to 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who have qualified for graduation through adult schools.

DOE will establish a process for developing and approving all proficiency-based equivalents similar to the process followed for all other new Authorized Courses and Code Numbers.

\*Opt-Out waiver signed by the parent or legal guardian is required

\*\* AP Language and Composition, AP Literature and Composition, and IB Language A1 (Higher and Standard levels) can be used to meet the Expository Writing requirement

\*\*\*A series of courses that satisfy the minimum learning expectations for all students as delineated in the College and Career Readiness Standards that are encompassed by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Mathematics.

The graduation requirements for students with disabilities shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

B. Commencement Exercises. Commencement exercises may be scheduled any time after the last day of school for seniors. The last day of school for seniors shall be set by the Department of Education. Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement exercises if they: (1) meet the requirements for a diploma or a certificate; (2) have fulfilled their financial obligations; and (3) meet other conditions, established by the Department of Education, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness, and justifiability.

Former Code No. 5127

Approved: 5/47

Amended: 1/59, 6/59, 6/60, 9/60, 2/64, 8/78, 3/88, 3/97, 6/04, 03/06/08, 6/21/11,  
9/20/11

**Note: This version of Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, shall take effect School Year 2006-2007, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming ninth grade class.**

**4540**

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT POLICY**

A. Requirements for High School Graduation. The purpose of high school graduation requirements is to establish rigorous standards of learning that will enable all public school students to meet the vision of a Hawaii public school graduate. All Hawaii public school graduates will:

- Realize their individual goals and aspirations;
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- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
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Students who demonstrate proficiency in the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards and General Learner Outcomes in the required courses shall receive a high school diploma. Students who meet additional requirements established by the Board of Education shall receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma. Proficiency shall be determined in accordance with established Department of Education procedures.

The minimum course and credit requirements to receive a high school graduation diploma and the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma are:

| <b>Course Requirements</b>            | <b>High School Diploma</b>                  | <b>Board of Education Recognition Diploma</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>English *</b>                      | 4.0 credits                                 | 4.0 credits                                   |
| <b>Social Studies **</b>              | 4.0 credits                                 | 4.0 credits                                   |
| <b>Mathematics</b>                    | 3.0 credits                                 | 3.0 credits                                   |
| <b>Science</b>                        | 3.0 credits                                 | 3.0 credits                                   |
| <b>World Language</b>                 | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   |
| <b>Fine Arts</b>                      |   |   |
| <b>Career and Technical Education</b> |   |   |

|                                  |              |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Senior Project</b>            | Not required | 1.0 credit   |
| <b>Physical Education</b><br>*** | 1.0 credit   | 1.0 credit   |
| <b>Health</b>                    | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   |
| <b>Personal/Transition Plan</b>  | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   |
| <b>Electives</b>                 | 6.0 credits  | 6.0 credits  |
|                                  |              |              |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 24.0 credits | 25.0 credits |

\* English shall include English Language Arts 1 (1.0 credit) and English Language Arts 2 (1.0 credit).

\*\* Social Studies shall include Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit).

\*\*\* Physical Education shall include required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and a required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit).

A Board of Education Recognition Diploma shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

High school diplomas may be granted to 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who have qualified for graduation through adult schools.

The graduation requirements for students with disabilities shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

B. Commencement Exercises. Commencement exercises may be scheduled any time after the last day of school for seniors. The last day of school for seniors shall be set by the Department of Education. Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement exercises if they: (1) meet the requirements for a diploma or a certificate; (2) have fulfilled their financial obligations; and (3) meet other conditions, established by the Department of Education, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness, and justifiability.

Former Code No. 5127

Approved: 5/47

Amended: 1/59, 6/59, 6/60, 9/60, 2/64, 8/78, 3/88, 3/97, 6/04

**Note: This version of Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, shall take effect School Year 2009-2010, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming ninth grade class.**

**4540**

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT POLICY**

A. Requirements for High School Graduation. The purpose of high school graduation requirements is to establish rigorous standards of learning that will enable all public school students to meet the vision of a Hawaii public school graduate. All Hawaii public school graduates will:

- Realize their individual goals and aspirations;
- Possess the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary to contribute positively and compete in a global society;
- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Pursue post-secondary education and/or careers without need for remediation.

Students who demonstrate proficiency in the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards and General Learner Outcomes in the required courses shall receive a high school diploma. Students who meet additional requirements established by the Board of Education shall receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma. Students who meet additional requirements established by the Board of Education and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher shall receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors. Proficiency shall be determined in accordance with established Department of Education procedures.

The minimum course and credit requirements to receive a high school graduation diploma, the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma, and the minimum course and credit requirements to receive a Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors are:

| <b>Course Requirements</b> | <b>High School Diploma</b>  | <b>Board of Education Recognition Diploma (Voluntary)</b>  | <b>Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors (Voluntary)</b>                                      |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>English</b>             | 4.0 credits including English Language Arts 1 (1 credit) and ELA 2 (1 credit) | 4.0 credits English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing | 4.0 credits English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing |

|                                       |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                                       |   | (0.5 credit)  | (0.5 credit)  |
| <b>Social Studies</b>                 | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)           | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)           | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit)           |
| <b>Mathematics</b>                    | 3.0 credits   | 4.0 credits including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II or the equivalent   | 4.0 credits including, as a minimum, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II or the equivalent                          |
| <b>Science</b>                        | 3.0 credits   | 3.0 credits including 2.0 credits in Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics   | 3.0 credits including 2.0 credits in Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics   |
| <b>World Language</b>                 | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   |
| <b>Fine Arts</b>                      |   |   |   |
| <b>Career and Technical Education</b> |   |   |   |
| <b>Senior Project</b>                 | Not required  | 1.0 credit  | 1.0 credit  |
| <b>Physical Education</b>             | 1.0 credit including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit) | 1.0 credit including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit) | 1.0 credit including required Physical Education (0.5 credit) and required Physical Education elective (0.5 credit) |
| <b>Health</b>                         | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  |
| <b>Personal/ Transition Plan</b>      | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  | 0.5 credit  |
| <b>Electives</b>                      | 6.0 credits   | 5.0 credits   | 5.0 credits   |
|                                       |   |   |   |
| <b>Total</b>                          | 24.0 credits  | 25.0 credits  | 25.0 credits  |
| <b>Other</b>                          |   | Meet standard on Algebra II End of Course Exam  | Meet standard on Algebra II End of Course Exam <u>and</u>   |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  | <u>cumulative GPA of<br/>3.0 or higher</u> |
|--|--|--|--|

A Board of Education Recognition Diploma shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements.

A Board of Education Recognition Diploma with Honors shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements and attain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

High school diplomas may be granted to 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who have qualified for graduation through adult schools.

**Note: This version of Board Policy 4540, High School Graduation Requirements and Commencement, shall take affect School Year 2011-2012, and shall apply to students beginning with the incoming eighth grade class.**

**4540**

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENCEMENT POLICY**

A. Requirements for High School Graduation. The purpose of high school graduation requirements is to establish rigorous standards of learning that will enable all public school students to meet the vision of a Hawaii public school graduate. All Hawaii public school graduates will:

- Realize their individual goals and aspirations;
- Possess the attitudes, knowledge, and skills necessary to contribute positively and compete in a global society;
- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and
- Pursue post-secondary education and/or careers.

Students who demonstrate proficiency in the State Standards and General Learner Outcomes in the required courses or proficiency based equivalents shall receive a Hawaii High School Diploma. Proficiency shall be determined in accordance with established Department of Education procedures.

The minimum course and credit requirements to receive a high school graduation diploma are:

| <b>Course Requirements</b> | <b>Hawaii High School Diploma</b>   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>English</b>             | 4.0 credits including English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing (0.5 credit) or CCSS *newly-developed CCSS proficiency based equivalents |
| <b>Social Studies</b>      | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) and Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit) or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents                                   |
| <b>Mathematics**</b>       | 3.0 credits including Algebra 1(1 credit), Geometry(1 credit) or *newly-developed CCSS proficiency based equivalents  |
| <b>Science</b>             | 3.0 credits including Biology and laboratory sciences( 2 credits) or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents   |



|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>World Language</b>                 | 2.0 credits in one of the specified programs of study or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents             |
| <b>Fine Arts</b>                      |   |
| <b>Career and Technical Education</b> |   |
| <b>Physical Education</b>             | 1.0 credit or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalent   |
| <b>Health</b>                         | 0.5 credit or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalent   |
| <b>Personal/ Transition Plan</b>      | 0.5 credit  |
| <b>Electives</b>                      | 6.0 credits, may include (1.0 elective credit) for Senior Project or *newly-developed proficiency based equivalents |
|                                       |   |
| <b>Total</b>                          | 24.0 credits  |

A Hawaii High School Diploma shall be issued to students who meet the course and credit requirements.

High school diplomas may be granted to 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds who have qualified for graduation through adult schools.

\*DOE will establish a process for developing and approving all proficiency-based equivalents similar to the process followed for all other new Authorized Courses and Code Numbers.

\*\* A series of courses that satisfy the minimum learning expectations for all students as delineated in the College and Career Readiness Standards that are encompassed by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Mathematics.

The graduation requirements for students with disabilities shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

B. Commencement Exercises. Commencement exercises may be scheduled any time after the last day of school for seniors. The last day of school for seniors shall be set by the Department of Education. Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement exercises if they: (1) meet the requirements for a diploma or a certificate; (2) have fulfilled their financial obligations; and (3) meet other conditions, established by the Department of Education, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness, and justifiability.

Former Code No. 5127  
Approved: 5/47

Amended: 1/59, 6/59, 6/60, 9/60, 2/64, 8/78, 3/88, 3/97, 6/04, 03/06/08, 6/21/11,  
9/20/11

Examining Course and Credit Requirements for High School Graduation Per Policy 4540



| Course Requirements | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2011 and 2012 (Amended 6/2004)                                 |  | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2013 through 2017 (Amended 3/6/2008)<br>BOE Recognition |   |  | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2016 and Beyond   |   | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2016 and Beyond (revised)   |   |
|---------------------|--|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| Diploma Type        | High School  | BOE Recognition  | High School   | BOE Recognition   | BOE Recognition w/ Honors  | Hawaii High School Diploma  | *Proficiency equivalents  | Hawaii High School Diploma  | *Proficiency equivalents  |
| English             | 4.0 credits including ELA 1 (1 credit) and ELA 2 (1 credit).                                     | 4.0 credits including ELA 1 (1 credit) and ELA 2 (1 credit). | 4.0 credits including ELA 1 (1 credit) and ELA 2 (1 credit).                              | 4.0 credits including English Language Arts 1 (1.0 credit). | 4.0 credits including ELA 1 (1 credit), ELA 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing (0.5 credit) or the equivalent. | 4.0 credits including English Language Arts 1 (1.0 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1.0 credit), and Expository Writing (0.5 credit) or CCSS proficiency based equivalents | e.g.. Eng. 100 for Expos. writing   | 4.0 credits including English Language Arts 1 (1 credit), English Language Arts 2 (1 credit), and Expository Writing (0.5 credit) or newly-developed CCSS proficiency based equivalents | e.g.. Eng. 100 for Expos. writing   |
| Social Studies      | Same requirement: 4.0 credits, including Mod. Hist. of HI (.5 credit), Part. in Dem. (.5 credit) |  |   |   |  | 3.0 credits including World History (1.0 credit), U.S. History (1.0 credit), Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit) or new standards proficiency based equivalents           | e.g. Research issues/ Developing/ presenting legislation (process that involves more than a capstone) | 4.0 credits including Modern History of Hawaii (0.5 credit), and Participation in Democracy or newly-developed proficiency based equivalents  | e.g. Research issues/ Developing/ presenting legislation (process that involves more than a capstone) |

| Course Requirements                                      | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2011 and 2012 (Amended 6/2004) |   | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2013 through 2017 (Amended 3/6/2008) |   |   | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2016 and Beyond  |                          | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2016 and Beyond (revised)   |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| Diploma Type   | High School  | BOE Recognition                             | High School  | BOE Recognition   | BOE Recognition w/ Honors   | Hawaii High School Diploma   | *Proficiency equivalents | Hawaii High School Diploma  | *Proficiency equivalents  |
| Mathematics  | 3.0 credits  | 3.0 credits                                 | 3.0 credits  | 4.0 credits including, as a minimum, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II or the equivalent. Also, must meet standard on Alg. II EOC Exam. | 4.0 credits including, as a minimum, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II or the equivalent. Also, must meet standard on Alg. II EOC Exam. | 3.0 credits including Algebra 1 (1.0 credit), Geometry (1.0 credit) or an equivalent 2-year integrated course sequence (2.0 credits) or CCSS proficiency based equivalents |                          | Option 1: 3.0 credits including Algebra 1 (1 credit), Geometry (1 credit) AND newly-developed CCSS proficiency based equivalent (1 credit)<br><br>Option 2: 3.0 credits including (Algebra 1 [1 credit], Geometry [1 credit] OR a two-year integrated course sequence [2 credits]) AND a newly-developed CCSS proficiency-based equivalent (1 credit) or other math course (1 credit) | e.g. 2-year integrated course sequence (2.0 credits) for Alg.1 and Geometry; Alg. II for CCSS proficiency based equivalents |
| Science  | 3.0 credits  | 3.0 credits                                 | 3.0 credits  | 3.0 credits including 2.0 credits in Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics.   | 3.0 credits including 2.0 credits in Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics.   | 3.0 credits including laboratory sciences (2 credits) or new standards proficiency based equivalents   |                          | 3.0 credits including Biology (1 credit), and two laboratory science (2 credits) or newly-developed proficiency based equivalents   |   |
| World Lang.<br><br>Fine Arts<br><br>Career and Tech. Ed. | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses                      | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses                            | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified courses   | 2.0 credits in one of the specified programs of study or proficiency based equivalent  |                          | 2.0 credits in one of the specified programs of study or newly-developed proficiency based equivalent   |   |

| Course Requirements          | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2011 and 2012 (Amended 6/2004) |                 | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2013 through 2017 (Amended 3/6/2008)                 |  |  | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2016 and Beyond  |                          | Diploma for Graduating Classes of 2016 and Beyond (revised)                                    |                          |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Diploma Type                 | High School  | BOE Recognition | High School  | BOE Recognition  | BOE Recognition w/ Honors  | Hawaii High School Diploma   | *Proficiency equivalents | Hawaii High School Diploma   | *Proficiency equivalents |
| Physical Ed.                 | 1.0 credit   | 1.0 credit      | 1.0 credit including required P.E. (.5 credit) and required P.E. elective (.5) credit. | 1.0 credit including required P.E. (.5 credit) and required P.E. elective (.5) credit. | 1.0 credit including required P.E. (.5 credit) and required P.E. elective (.5) credit. | 1.0 credit or proficiency based equivalent   |                          | 1.0 credit or newly-developed proficiency based equivalent                                     |                          |
| Health                       | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit      | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit or proficiency based equivalent   |                          | 0.5 credit or newly-developed proficiency based equivalent                                     |                          |
| Personal Transition Plan     | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit      | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit   | 0.5 credit or equivalent   |                          | 0.5 credit or newly-developed equivalent   |                          |
| Electives                    | 6.0 credits  | 6.0 credits     | 6.0 credits  | 5.0 credits  | 5.0 credits  | 7.0 credits, may include Senior Project (1.0 elective credit) or proficiency based equivalents |                          | 6.0 credits, may include Senior Project (1.0 elective credit) or proficiency based equivalents |                          |
| Senior Project or equivalent | Not required   | 1.0 credit      | Not required   | 1.0 credit   | 1.0 credit   | Not required   |                          | Not required   |                          |

\*Proficiency equivalents will be developed by the department based on the proficiency level of the standards. Only possibilities have been listed, none have been developed at this time.