

Raymond School District Policy – IKF

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION POLICY

In order to better meet the individual needs of each student, Raymond High School offers a differentiated diploma program. In addition to the Raymond High School Diploma, Raymond High School also offers a State Standard Diploma and a NH Scholars Diploma.

The District requires that every student take three years of math and an additional year of math or a non-math class in which mathematics is significantly applied.

The District will develop a competency assessment of United States government and civics consistent with pertinent and applicable law. This assessment will be administered to students as part of the high school course in history and government of the United States and New Hampshire. Students who attain a passing grade on this assessment will be eligible to receive a high school diploma.

Raymond High School Diploma- This diploma is awarded in regular circumstances and is based on the Raymond School District minimum requirements for a high school diploma.

The following diploma will be offered to all RHS students through the Class of 2020:

<u>Credit/Course Requirements</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
Art	.50
Computer	1.00
English	4.00
Health	.50
Mathematics	3.00
Physical Education	1.00
Science	3.00
Social Studies	2.50
Total Credits Required	15.50
Total Credits Elective	6.75
Total credits needed to graduate	22.25

The following diploma and credit requirements will be in effect for the Class of 2021 and all following classes.

<u>Credit/Course Requirements</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
Art	.50
Computer	1.00
English	4.00
Health	.50
Mathematics	3.00
Physical Education	1.00
Science	3.00
Social Studies	2.50
Total Credits Required	15.50
Total Credits Elective	8.50
Total credits needed to graduate	24.00

Raymond High School Honors Diploma - This diploma will be available to the Class of 2021 and all following classes. In addition to the credit requirements, students must have an '85%' GPA.

<u>Credit/Course Requirements</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
English	4
Math	3
Social Studies	3
Science	3
World Languages	2
Art	1
Health	.50
Computer Education	1
Physical Education	1
ELO/Online Learning	.50
Electives	8
Total Credits	28

This diploma will also be available for classes graduating before 2021. The requirements are as follows:

Class of 2018: Students must earn 25 credits, have taken 2 years of a consecutive world language and must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of "85" or higher.

Class of 2019: Students must earn 26 credits, have taken 2 years of a consecutive world language and must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of "85" or higher.

Class of 2020: Students must earn 27 credits, have taken 2 years of a consecutive world language and must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of "85" or higher.

State Standard Diploma- This diploma is awarded in special circumstances and is based on the State of New Hampshire minimum requirements for a high school diploma. The approval of the school administration and Superintendent is required to be considered for this diploma. See IKF-R for criteria, application and appeal process.

<u>Credit/Course Requirements</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
Art	.50
Information and Communication Technologies	.50
English	4.00
Mathematics	3.00
Physical Sciences	1.00
Biological Sciences	1.00
US and NH History	1.00
US and NH Government/Civics	.50
Economics	.50
World History, Global Studies or Geography	.50
Health	.50

Physical Education	1.00
Open Electives	6.00
Total Credits	20.00

NH Scholars Diploma-This diploma is awarded in special circumstances for those students who have met all of the requirements of the NH Scholars, including a 3.50 cumulative GPA for the NH Scholar designation.

<u>Credit/Course Requirements</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
English- 9,10,11,12	4.00
Mathematics-Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II	3.00
Science- Biology, Chemistry, and one of the following: Honors Physics, Environmental Science, Anatomy & Physiology or AP Biology	3.00
Social Studies-US History, World History or World Geography, Economics, Government and Social Studies Electives	3.50
Languages- Three sequential years of a foreign language	3.00
Physical Education	1.00
Health	.50
Art	.50
Computer	1.00
Additional Electives	2.75
Total Credits	22.25

Certificates of Completion - Students with individualized education plans (IEP's) may earn a Certificate of Completion. These certificates shall not be equal to a regular high school diploma per the State of New Hampshire Department of Education. All students with disabilities shall be entitled to continue their high school educational program until such time as each student has earned a regular high school diploma or has attained the age of 21, whichever comes first. Certification of Completion recognizes the completion of a student's program as set forth by the Special Education Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Placement Team.

The following conditions will apply to students earning a Certificate of Completion:

- The student is identified with an educational disability as documented in an Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- The student has spent a majority of their high school program in either non-credit granting courses or was unable to demonstrate competency in required courses and, therefore, was unable to attain sufficient credits for a standard diploma.

The special Education Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Placement Team will determine if the student has met the criteria for a Certificate of Completion as outlined in the IEP. An award of this certificate will be on or before the student's 21st birthday. The student may choose when to receive the Certificate of Completion on one of three predetermined opportunities:

- At graduation with common age peers
- At the conclusion of IEP program, or
- Upon reaching the age of 21 (Graduation ceremony must be prior to their 21st birthday).

If the student participates in the traditional ceremony, the student's name will be included in the written graduation publication(s). The granting of a Certificate of Completion and/or participation in the commencement activities does not negate the student's rights to services until the age of 21 as prescribed in the IEP.

Certificates of Attendance- Students with individualized education plans (IEP's) may earn certificates of attendance. These certificates shall not be equal to a regular high school diploma per the State of New Hampshire Department of Education. All students with disabilities shall be entitled to continue their high school educational program until such time as each student has earned a regular high school diploma or has attained the age of 21, whichever comes first. Certificates of Attendance indicate that the school district recognizes a student's time at Raymond High School. A Transition Plan/Diploma track will be developed at the end of the 8th grade year or upon entrance to Raymond High School.

Criteria

- Special Education Team decision (includes, special education case manager, superintendent of schools, teacher, administration, parent or guardian and guidance)
- Student must be present 90% of the time
- Student must be in attendance for at least 4 years
- Student must be identified with an IEP
- Student has attended until age 21 but has not met the state requirements for graduation

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(14), How Credit Can Be Earned

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(f), Awarding of Credit for Required Subjects and Open Electives

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(d), Mastery of Required Competencies

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27 (m), Credits Required for Graduation

NH Code of Administrative Rules Section Ed 306.27 (j), English and Mathematics Graduation Competencies

NH RSA 189:11

Adopted: September 18, 2013

Proposed Revision First Reading: June 7, 2017