

EARLY GRADUATION PLAN

The curriculum offerings at Raymond High School are planned so that most students will benefit from four years of secondary school education. However, students, motivated by a desire to accelerate their learning, specific future plans or economic necessity, may wish or need to complete their high school education in less than the customary four years. Recognizing the above, the Raymond School Board herein approves a policy whereby Raymond High School students may graduate after successfully completing a minimum of three full years. Procedure related to this policy will be developed by the school administration and Superintendent's Office. A maximum of three required credits earned through Reteach-Credit Recovery may be applied toward early graduation.

If a student thinks he/she has the necessary credentials to qualify for early graduation, the following procedure should be followed:

I. Request Procedure/Application Plan

- a. The student must submit an Early Graduation Plan to the Principal.
- b. The student must present his/her request to the principal prior to the last day of the first semester of his/her junior/sophomore year when intending to graduate early. This request is to be in writing and should include a written summary of why the request is being made. The request for early graduation must be accompanied by a written approval from his/her parents or guardian.
- c. The student must at this time be able to set forth comprehensive plans for the coming year as well as a post-graduation plan. Once approved by the Early Graduation Committee, the student's request will be forwarded to the principal for approval.
- d. The Committee will review all students' requests for early graduation during the third quarter. Once approved by the Early Graduation Committee, the student's request will be forwarded to the principal for approval. The Principal will make a recommendation to the School Board for final approval.
- e. The principal will communicate the Early Graduation final decision in writing to the student and the parents or guardian.

II. Guidelines

The Early Graduation Committee will be guided by the following considerations:

- a. Academic record (including depth and size of program)
- b. Maturity of the individual, as determined by Early Graduation Committee
- c. Economic situation (if this is the basis for the request)
- d. Immediate plans with specific goals
- e. Post-Graduation Plan

III. Specific Criteria for Early Graduation

- a. The parents or guardian must be in accord with the student's request. No student under the age of eighteen will be permitted to graduate early without parental consent.

- b. The student must meet local and state minimum requirements with regard to the number of units required for graduation. The student's academic record must show that he/she has maintained, at least, an average level of achievement throughout his/her high school years. Overall GPA of 2.50 at a minimum is required.
- c. **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.**
- d. The student must display a level of maturity and responsibility appropriate to an individual ready to take his/her place in the community.
- e. The student must demonstrate a viable plan for post-graduation. This plan must include documentation of further education, vocational training, job placement or a career in the armed forces.
- f. Student academic progress as shown through final course grades each year. Classroom academic performance and midterm/final exams will be reviewed. Teacher recommendation may be requested.
- g. The student must receive a favorable recommendation from the Early Graduation Committee.

IV. Options

- a. The student may wish to return and receive his/her diploma at the formal graduation ceremonies in June.
- b. No student may graduate before the end of the junior year.

Legal Reference: RSA 189:11

Approved: February 3, 2010

Proposed Revision Second Reading: June 21, 2017

EARLY GRADUATION CHECKLIST

NAME _____

APPLICATION FILING DEADLINE _____

(This would be entered when the form is given to the student)

___ GRADUATION PLAN

___ STUDENT LETTER

___ REASON FOR THE REQUEST

___ PLANS FOR THE COMING YEAR

___ PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

___ PARENT APPROVAL LETTER

___ MINIMUM CUMULATIVE GPA OF 2.5

___ WILL HAVE COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF 6 SEMESTERS

___ RETEACH-CREDIT RECOVERY CREDITS (3 MAX.) IF APPLICABLE

___ TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS - IF DEEMED NECESSARY

APPLICATION WAS DELIVERED TO THE GUIDANCE OFFICE ON _____