

**CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY/HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY**

The Board of Education desires that every student shall have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma through successful completion of class work, examinations, and achievement of a satisfactory score on the state’s high school exit examination (CAHSEE).

The Board of Education has an obligation to inform students that the California Legislature has provided two (2) alternatives to the high school diploma: the High School Equivalency Certificate for individuals eighteen (18) years of age or over; and the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) for students who are sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age and who are subject to compulsory continuing education. These certificates may be granted by the California Department of Education to individuals who meet the performance standards set by the Department on taking the General Educational Development Test (G.E.D.) or California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE).

The Superintendent or designee is directed to establish regulations which will assure that the district will meet all requirements of the Education Code and Administrative Code, Title 5, in relation to these alternatives to high school graduation.

**Legal Reference:**

EDUCATION CODE

- 48400-48403 Persons subject to compulsory continuation education
- 48410 Persons exempt from continuation classes
- 48412 Certificate of Proficiency; examination fees
- 48413 Enrollment in continuation classes
- 48414 Re-enrollment in district

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 5

- 11520 Definition re: High School Proficiency Certificate (persons aged 16-17)
- 11521 Placement on pupil transcript
- 11522 Requirements for form for exemption from school attendance
- 11523 Requirement to make examination announcements
- 11530 High School Equivalency Certificate for persons 18 years of age or older

Policy  
 Adopted: October 29, 1984  
 Revised: March 6, 1995  
 May 16, 2006

**ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Elk Grove, California**

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS FOR PROFICIENCY (cont.)**

Requirements for graduation and specified alternative means for completing the prescribed course of study shall be made available to students, parents/guardians, and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 5126 – Awards for Achievement)

(cf. 6146.11 – Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

(cf. 6145.6 – International Exchange)

(cf. 6146.2 – Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

Students shall not be required to have resided within the district for any minimum length of time as a condition of high school graduation. (Education Code 51411)

If a student successfully completes the district's graduation requirements while attending a juvenile court school or nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency, the district shall issue the student a diploma from the school the student last attended. (Education Code 48645.5)

**Exit Examination for Classes of 2006 and Later**

Students in the class of 2006 who complete all course and credit requirements for graduation and pass CAHSEE, will receive a diploma.

Students in the class of 2006 who complete all course and credit requirements for graduation, but who do not pass the state exit exam, will receive a Certificate of Course Completion rather than a diploma. These students may participate in graduation ceremonies if they meet the criteria set forth in AR 6146.1. This specific paragraph of the policy will sunset on June 30, 2006.

At the beginning of each successive school year or at the time a student transfers into the district, the Board of Education shall provide written notification to all students in grades 9-12 and to their parents/guardians that, starting in the 2006-2007 school year and each year thereafter, each student completing the 12<sup>th</sup> grade shall be required to successfully pass the state's high school exit examination (CAHSEE) as one condition of receiving a diploma. At a minimum, the notification shall include: the date of the examination, the requirements for passing the examination, and the consequences of not passing the examination. (Education Code 48980, 60850, 60859)

(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)

The examination shall be administered in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 6162.52 – High School Exit Examination)

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS FOR PROFICIENCY (cont.)**

**Exit Examination for Classes of 2006 and Later (cont.)**

When students do not demonstrate sufficient progress toward passing the exit examination, supplemental instruction offered by the district shall be designed to assist students in succeeding on the exit examination and shall reflect statewide academic standards to the extent that the district has aligned its curriculum with those standards. (Education Code 60851)

(cf. 6179 – Supplemental Instruction)

Supplemental instruction shall include summer school, and/or intervention programs for students in grades 7-12 who do not demonstrate sufficient progress toward passing the exit examination. (Education Code 37252)

(cf. 5123 – Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

(cf.6177 – Summer School)

Regulation

approved:

October 29, 1984

Amended:

June 1, 1987

January 17, 1989

April 1, 1991 (Continuation Credit Guidelines added)

May 6, 1991

April 20, 1992

March 6, 1995

January 18, 2000

May 30, 2006

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