

## Policy 223 - Program of Study for High School (Grades 9 through 12)

Revised policy and repeal of Policy 9800 (High School Diploma for Veterans) effective upon passage

*1<sup>st</sup> reading*      April 11, 2019

*2<sup>nd</sup> reading*

*3<sup>rd</sup> reading*

**Statutory authority**      West Virginia Code 18-5-13 and 18-2-34, West Virginia Board of Education Policies 2510 and 4355

### Administrative Guidelines

- i.      Substitution of Required Courses for High School Graduation
- ii.     Alternative Means to Earn High School Credit
- iii.    Weighted Courses

The county shall provide for a curriculum of rigorous and challenging coursework, career-focused experiences, and awareness of postsecondary education and employment to all students in grades 9 through 12. This curriculum shall comply with and exceed the requirements specified by West Virginia state law and West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) policy.

### Graduation requirements

As provided in WVBE Policy 2510, beginning with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade cohort of 2018-19, the Roane County Board of Education does set as its requirements for high school graduation as those that are required by WVBE Policy 2510 and additional requirements above and beyond those. The number of credits in each content area and courses required are summarized in the table below.

Content area	Credits required	Courses required
English Language Arts	4	English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12 <i>or</i> English 12 CR <i>or</i> Transition ELA for Seniors
Mathematics	4	Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Trigonometry / Pre-Calculus <i>or</i> Transition Mathematics for Seniors <i>or</i> any other fourth course option
Science	3	Earth and Space Science Biology One additional science course

Social Studies	4	World Studies United States Studies <i>or</i> United States Studies Comprehensive Civics One additional social studies course
Physical Education	1	Physical Education 9 – 12
Health	1	Health 9 – 12
The Arts	1	(any arts credit)
Career Preparation	1	Business Computer Applications I or a similar course
Electives	5	Elective courses shall be chosen to complement required courses in completion of a student's Personalized Education Plan (PEP).

A required course may be substituted by an appropriate course of higher rigor, such as an Advanced Placement or college-credit-bearing course. The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to detail which courses may be substituted in this manner and specify which courses may serve as substitutes.

All students who complete the requirements for graduation shall be awarded a diploma indicating their completion of this program of study. A student who has been determined by his/her Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team to be unable to complete these requirements, even with modifications and /or accommodations appropriate to his/her exceptionality(ies), may be awarded a modified diploma.

*Alternative means to earn high school credit*

Pursuant to WVBE Policy 2510 Section 5.4.g, the Roane County Board of Education offers the following alternative means to earn high school credit:

a. **Credit earned prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade**

Students may earn high school credit prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade through the delivery of a course(s) that allow the students to demonstrate mastery of the content standards and objectives of a high school course.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to detail which courses will be offered to students in county schools prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

b. **Embedded credit**

If the completion of one course(s) sufficiently allows a student to demonstrate mastery of the content standards and objectives of a second course, then high school credit may be earned for this second course.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to detail which credits may be earned through completion of other credits pursuant to this policy.

c. **Dual-credit and other college-credit-bearing courses**

Students may earn high school credit through completion of dual-credit and other college-credit bearing courses. For high school credit to be earned, these courses must allow the students to demonstrate mastery of the content standards and objectives of the high school course as well as the college course.

In the case of a dual-credit course, a student may earn high school credit even when college credit is not granted due to administrative reasons, but failure of the college credit due to academic reasons shall also result in failure of the high school credit.

**d. Credit recovery**

Students who have failed a course required for graduation shall have the opportunity to earn that credit through a rigorous and research-based credit recovery program that focuses on content mastery rather than repeating the time spent in a course.

**e. West Virginia Virtual School**

If a course(s) is not offered to students in the county or if a student cannot take a course offered due to a scheduling conflict or other administrative reason, then the student may take the course through the West Virginia Virtual School, if available.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to detail under what circumstances the West Virginia Virtual School should be used and how financial, administrative, and other considerations should be addressed.

*Uniform grading*

In accordance with WVBE Policy 2510, all courses for which a high school credit is earned shall be assigned grades as follows. The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to detail which courses are to be assigned weighting.

Numerical Grade Range	Letter Grade Assigned	Quality Points Assigned for Non-Weighted Courses	Quality Points Assigned for Weighted Courses
90 – 100	A	4.0	5.0
80 – 89	B	3.0	4.0
70 – 79	C	2.0	3.0
60 – 69	D	1.0	2.0
0 – 59	F	0.0	0.0

*Class rank*

Students in grades 9 through 12 may be ordered in terms of class rank according to their grade point averages. Students entering the county school system shall not be considered to hold a class rank until completion of two consecutive semesters within the county school system immediately prior to the semester for which a rank is calculated.

For the purposes of calculating class rank, a student's grade point average shall be computed by adding all quality points assigned at the time each credit was earned and dividing by the total number of credits attempted. All courses for which high school credit has been earned to date, including any credits earned outside the county school system or prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, shall be included in this calculation.

If a student earns a high school credit through embedded credit, the quality points assigned to the completed credit(s) shall also be assigned to the embedded credit.

If a student earns a high school credit through a dual-credit course, the quality points assigned shall correspond to the letter grade assigned for the high school credit, which may or may not be the same as the letter grade assigned for the college credit. If a student earns a high school credit through an equivalent college-credit-bearing course that is not considered dual-credit, the quality points assigned shall correspond to the letter grade assigned for the college credit.

If a student earns a high school credit through credit recovery, quality points shall be assigned to that credit according to the grade earned during credit recovery. The credit failed shall still be considered in the calculation of total number of credits attempted.

If a student earns a high school credit through the West Virginia Virtual School, the quality points assigned shall correspond to the letter grade assigned by the instructor of the West Virginia Virtual School course.

#### *Graduation ceremonies*

Students who complete the requirements for graduation shall be permitted to participate in the appropriate ceremonies unless under disciplinary sanction at the time of such ceremonies.

Those students who are expected to complete these requirements by the end of the current school year may be included in the appropriate ceremonies at the discretion of the school principal.

All students receiving a modified diploma and participating in graduation ceremonies shall be permitted to do so with their cohort.

#### *High School Diploma for Veterans*

The Board of Education recognizes the service provided to the country and the individual sacrifices made by veterans of World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam Conflict.

Since many of these veterans left school in order to fight for their country, the Board wishes to recognize their efforts by awarding such persons a high school diploma.

The Board shall cooperate with appropriate state agencies should a qualifying veteran be determined to be eligible for issuance of a Roane County high school diploma under the High School Diploma for Veterans program.

~~The West Virginia State Board of Education shall provide for the awarding of a high school diploma, either by the District Board in the county in which the veteran resides or the county in which the veteran left for service, whichever location the veteran chooses.~~

#### *Definitions:*

- ~~A. A World War II veteran means any veteran who performed wartime service between September 16, 1940 and December 31, 1946.~~
- ~~B. A Korean War veteran means any veteran who performed military service between June 27, 1950 and January 31, 1955.~~
- ~~C. A Vietnam Conflict veteran means any veteran who performed military service between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975.~~

~~To be eligible for a diploma, all of the following criteria must be met:~~

- ~~A. left school prior to graduation and served in the Armed Forces of the United States;~~
- ~~B. did not receive a high school diploma;~~
- ~~C. the veteran received an honorable discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States; and~~
- ~~D. completes the application process as provided by the joint rules of the West Virginia State Board of Education and the veterans' council;~~

~~The Office of Veterans Affairs will notify veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam Conflict of the availability of the diploma for veterans. This notification will include the application form to receive such diploma.~~

~~This application form shall include:~~

- A. ~~veteran's military service and personal information;~~
- B. ~~school information including the name of the last school attended and the county in which located, the year left school, and the year that would have been the graduation year;~~
- C. ~~the veteran's preference to receive the diploma from the county of current residence or the county the veteran left for service.~~

~~The veteran will return the completed application form to the Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance. Upon verifying the application, the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Assistance will forward the application to the West Virginia Department of Education for processing.~~

~~The West Virginia Department of Education staff will notify the appropriate county of the veteran's preference to receive the diploma from the county of current residence or the county the veteran left for service.~~

~~The Board will partner with a local Veterans Assistance Office or other veterans' organization to provide appropriate ceremonies for veterans receiving this diploma. These ceremonies may be held as part of the District's high school graduation ceremony or as a separate ceremony.~~

~~The diploma to be awarded to veterans through this program is the awarding district's standard diploma.~~