

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 14 (Policy IHF)

DISTRICT OPTION

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following table. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of the Approved Courses for Secondary Schools of Mississippi. (See SB Policies 2902 and 2903.) Enrollment in online and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course.

Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as specified below and has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

| CURRICULUM AREA | CARNEGIE UNITS | REQUIRED SUBJECTS |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ENGLISH | 4 ¹ | English I English II |
| MATHEMATICS | 4 ² | Algebra I or Integrated Math I |
| SCIENCE | 3 ³ | Biology I |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 3 | 1 World History ⁴ 1 U.S. History ⁴ 1/2 U.S. Government 1/2 Mississippi Studies ⁵ |
| HEALTH | 1/2 ^{6&7} | Contemporary Health ¹⁰ |
| BUSINESS and TECHNOLOGY | 1 ⁸ | 1 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) II or 1 Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) or 1 Technology Foundations or 1/2 Keyboarding and 1/2 Computer Applications ¹¹ |
| THE ARTS | 1 | Any approved 500.000 course |
| ELECTIVES | 4 1/2 ⁹ | |
| TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED | 21 | |

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¹ Compensatory English, Compensatory Reading, and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four (4) English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the four and one-half (4 1/2) general electives required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory English may only be taken if a credit-bearing English course is taken in the same school year. MYP-English I and MYP English II are accepted in lieu of the English I and English II requirements for students enrolled in the IB program.

² Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four (4) mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the four and one-half (4 1/2) general electives required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory Mathematics may only be taken if a credit-bearing Math course is taken in the same school year. Beginning school year 2004-2005 for all entering eighth graders, at least one (1) of the four

(4) required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I or Integrated Math I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Integrated Math II, Algebra II, Integrated Math III, CCSS Advanced Math Plus, Algebra III, SREB Math Ready, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and AP Statistics. Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Discrete Mathematics, and Statistics meet this requirement if taken prior to the 2015-2016 school year. One (1) of the four (4) required mathematics units may be in Architecture & Drafting if the student completes the two-course sequence for Architecture & Drafting I & II. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra are no longer available after the 2013-2014 school year. Carnegie units may be earned by seventh and eighth graders effective with school year 2014-2015 for the following courses: CCSS Compacted Math Grade 7, CCSS Math Grade 8, CCSS Compacted Math Grade 8 (with Integrated Math I), and CCSS Math Grade 8 (with Algebra I/Traditional). MYP Geometry, MYP Algebra II, IB-DP Mathematics I, IB-DP Mathematics II, IB-DP Mathematical Studies I, IB-DP Mathematical Studies II are allowable mathematics courses higher than Algebra I for IB students.

³ One (1) unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience or Introduction to Agriscience, and a second unit may be earned by completing two (2) of the following three (3) courses: Science of Agricultural Plants, Science of Agricultural Animals, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two (2) units may be in the following courses if the student completes the required course sequence ending with Healthcare & Clinical Services II, Aquaculture II, Forestry II, Robotics/Engineering II, Polymer Science II or Careers in Polymer Science, Horticulture II or Horticulture Landscape and Turf grass, Engineering II or Applied Engineering Concepts, Health Sciences II or Workplace and Employment Skills in Health Sciences. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, AP Physics C – Mechanics, Polymer Science II, and Robotics/Engineering II. IB-DP Physics I, IB-DP Physics II, MYP Chemistry, and IB-DP Chemistry may be accepted as allowable lab-based physical science courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP Biology and IB-DP Biology I may be accepted in lieu of the Biology I requirement for students enrolled in an IB program. Effective with school year 2013-14, up to two (2) of the three (3) required science units (excluding Biology I) may be earned by completing Agriculture and Natural Resources I & II. One (1) credit allowed shall be awarded for Biology II, and one-half (1/2) credit shall be awarded for Botany, and one-half (1/2) credit shall be awarded for Field Experiences in Science. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Introduction to Agriscience may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

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⁴ **Based on the 2011 Mississippi Social Studies Framework**, A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from the Age of Enlightenment to Present course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from Post-reconstruction to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U.S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

⁵ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other one-half (1/2) unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other one-half (1/2) unit social studies course. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Mississippi Studies and Geography may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁶ Credit earned in Healthcare & Clinical Services I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Contemporary Health to meet the graduation requirement for one-half (1/2) Carnegie unit in Health.

⁷ Successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Contemporary Health to meet the graduation requirement for one-half (1/2) Carnegie unit in Health beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and thereafter, when instruction includes all health components in the JROTC curriculum.

⁸ Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one (1) unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational). Information & Computer Technology (ICT) II may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery. A Carnegie unit earned for Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) in the 8th or 9th grade meets this graduation requirement. Technology Foundations replaces Computer Discovery, Keyboarding and Computer Applications and meets this graduation requirement when taken in grades 8-12. MYP Computer Discovery may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁹ Elective units in physical education include participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, performance choral, dance and JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

¹⁰ Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health meet this requirement if taken prior to the 2014-2015 school year.

¹¹ Computer Discovery meets this requirement if taken prior to the 2012-2013 school year.

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 14 (*Policy IHF*)

STANDARD OPTION

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (and thereafter) (Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009 and thereafter)

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following table. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of the *Approved Courses for Secondary Schools of Mississippi*. (See SB Policies 2902 and 2903) Enrollment in online and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course.

Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as specified below and has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

Beginning school year 2008-2009 and thereafter, all entering ninth graders (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) will be required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified below, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-2 requirements in accordance with local school board policy. Any student who is taken out of these requirements of Appendix A-2 will be required to complete the graduation requirements as specified in Appendix A-1 (District Option). The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

| CURRICULUM AREA | CARNEGIE UNITS | REQUIRED SUBJECTS |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ENGLISH | 4¹ | English I English II |
| MATHEMATICS | 4² | Algebra I or Integrated Math I |
| SCIENCE | 4³ | Biology I |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 4 | 1 World History⁴ 1 U.S. History⁴ 1/2 Geography⁴ 1/2 U.S. Government 1/2 Economics⁵ 1/2 Mississippi Studies⁴ |
| HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION | 1^{7&8} | 1/2 Contemporary Health and 1/2 Physical Education^{9&11} |
| BUSINESS and TECHNOLOGY | 1¹⁰ | 1 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) II or 1 Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) or 1 Technology Foundations or 1/2 Keyboarding and 1/2 Computer Applications¹⁰ |
| THE ARTS | 1 | Any approved 500.000 course |
| ELECTIVES | 5¹¹ | |
| TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED | 24 | |

¹ Compensatory English, Compensatory Reading, and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four (4) English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the five (5) general electives required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory English may only be taken if a credit-bearing English course is taken in the same school year. Accelerated English 9 can be accepted in lieu of English I. Accelerated English 10 and AP English Language Composition can be accepted in lieu of English II. Beginning school year 2010-2011 for all entering ninth graders, English I is a required prerequisite course for English II. English I may not be taken after a student completes English II.

² Compensatory Mathematics, Introduction to Engineering, and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four (4) mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the five (5) general electives required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory Mathematics may only be taken if a credit-bearing Math course is taken in the same school year. Math 8 cannot be taken after Algebra I or Integrated Math I. Beginning school year 2007-2008 for all entering eighth graders, at least two (2) of the four (4) required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I or Integrated Math I. Effective with ninth graders of 2010-2011, Survey of Mathematical Topics may not be included in the two (2) math courses higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I or Integrated Math I are: Geometry, Integrated Math II, Algebra II, Integrated Math III, CCSS Advanced Math Plus, Algebra III, SREB Math Ready, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and AP Statistics. Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Discrete Mathematics, and Statistics meet this requirement if taken prior to the 2015-2016 school year. MYP Geometry, MYP Algebra II, IB-DP Mathematics I, IB-DP Mathematics II, IB-DP Mathematical Studies I, and IB-DP Mathematical Studies II are allowable mathematics courses higher than Algebra I for IB students. One (1) of the four (4) required mathematics units may be in Architecture & Drafting if the student completes the two-course sequence for Architecture & Drafting I & II. One (1) of the four (4) required mathematics units may be in Survey of Mathematical Topics; however, this course does not meet the mathematics requirement for admission to institutions of higher learning. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Survey of Mathematical Topics are no longer available after the 2013-2014 school year. Carnegie units may be earned by seventh and eighth graders effective with school year 2014-2015 for the following courses: CCSS Compacted Math Grade 7, CCSS Math Grade 8, CCSS Compacted Math Grade 8 (with Integrated Math I), and CCSS Math Grade 8 (with Algebra I/Traditional). Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with 7th graders of 2012-13, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Biology I, ICT II (Information & Communication Technology), and first-year Foreign Language may be taken in the 7th grade for Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is the same as the high school course. Effective with 8th graders of 2012-2013, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics) and second-year Foreign Language may be taken in the 8th grade for Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is the same as the high school course. Effective with 8th graders of 2013-2014, Introduction to Agriscience may be taken for Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is the same as the high school course.

³ One (1) unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience or Introduction to Agriscience, and a second unit may be earned by completing two (2) of the following three (3) courses: Science of Agriculture Plants, Science of Agriculture Animals, and Science of Agricultural Environment. Two (2) units may be in the following courses if the student completes the required course sequence ending with Healthcare & Clinical Services II, Aquaculture II, Forestry II, Robotics/Engineering II, Polymer Science II or Careers in Polymer Science, Horticulture II or Horticulture Landscape
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and Turf grass, Engineering II or Applied Engineering Concepts, Health Sciences II or Workplace and Employment Skills in Health Sciences. Beginning school year 2008-2009 for all entering eighth graders, one (1) unit must be a lab-based physical science. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, AP Physics C – Mechanics, Polymer Science II, and Robotics/Engineering II. IB-DP Physics I, IB-DP Physics II, MYP Chemistry, and IB-DP Chemistry may be accepted as allowable lab-based physical science courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP Biology and IB-DP Biology I may be accepted in lieu of the Biology I requirement for students enrolled in an IB program. Effective with school year 2013-14, up to two (2) of the four (4) required science units (excluding Biology I) may be earned by completing Agriculture and Natural Resources I & II. One (1) credit allowed shall be awarded for Biology II, one-half (1/2) credit shall be awarded for Botany, and one-half (1/2) credit shall be awarded for Field Experiences in Science. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Introduction to Agriscience may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁴ **Based on the 2011 Mississippi Social Studies Framework**, A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from the Age of Enlightenment to Present course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from Post-reconstruction to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course. A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. MYP World Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U.S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Mississippi Studies and Geography may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁵ Credit earned for Business Fundamentals or Business Fundamentals II may be accepted in lieu of one-half (1/2) unit in Economics.

⁶ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other one-half (1/2) unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other one-half (1/2) unit social studies course.

⁷ Credit earned in Healthcare & Clinical Services I, Health Sciences I, or Theory and Application of Health Sciences I may be accepted in lieu of Contemporary Health to meet the graduation requirement for one-half (1/2) Carnegie unit in Health.

⁸ Successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Contemporary Health to meet the graduation requirement for one-half (1/2) Carnegie unit in Health beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and thereafter.

⁹ Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health meet the health requirement if taken prior to the 2014- 2015 school year. The graduation requirement for one-half (1/2) unit in physical education may include participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, dance and JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

¹⁰ Evidence of proficiency in technology is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one (1) unit in a technology-rich academic or career technical course related to their program of study. Effective with school year 2012-2013, a Carnegie unit credit for ICT II (Information & Communication Technology) may be awarded to 7th grade students. Effective with school year 2012-2013, a Carnegie unit credit for STEM (Science, Technology,

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Engineering, & Mathematics) may be awarded to 8th grade students. ICT II may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery. A Carnegie unit earned for STEM in the 8th or 9th grade meets this graduation requirement. Technology Foundations replaces Computer Discovery, Keyboarding, and Computer Applications, and meets this graduation requirement when taken in grades 8-12. MYP Computer Discovery may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery for students enrolled in an IB program. Computer Discovery meets this requirement if taken prior to the 2012- 2013 school year.

¹¹ Only one (1) elective unit in physical education including participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, performance choral, dance or JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association may be applied each year to the minimum 24 required state units. If a local district has graduation requirements above the state requirements, they may award additional credits as outlined in the local Board policy.

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 14 (*Policy IHF*)

CAREER PATHWAY OPTION SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012(and thereafter) (Entering eleventh graders in 2010-2011 and thereafter)

In 2010, Mississippi state policymakers passed legislation to create multiple pathways to a standard diploma. The 2010 legislative actions created a career pathway to a standard diploma, with the goal of improving Mississippi graduation rates and providing students with career and technical training that prepares students for postsecondary credential or certification programs and employable workplace skills. This legislative change created Section 37-16-17, *Mississippi Code of 1972*, as amended, to provide for high school career option programs and career track curricula for students not wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree. Enrollment in online and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course.

| CURRICULUM AREA | CARNEGIE UNITS | REQUIRED SUBJECTS |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ENGLISH | 4¹ | English I English II |
| MATHEMATICS | 3² | Algebra I or Integrated Math I |
| SCIENCE | 3³ | Biology I |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 3^{4,5} | 1 U.S. History 1/2 U.S. Government 1/2 Mississippi Studies |
| HEALTH or PHYSICAL EDUCATION | 1/2⁶ | 1/2 Contemporary Health or 1/2 Physical Education¹⁰ |
| CAREER and TECHNICAL | 4⁷ | (Selected from Student's Program of Study) |
| BUSINESS and TECHNOLOGY | 1⁸ | Technology Foundations, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) II, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), or Computer Applications and Keyboarding |
| ELECTIVES | 21/2⁹ | Courses selected from the student's approved program of study |
| TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED | 21 | |

NOTE: Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning requirements differ from minimum graduation requirements for this diploma pathway.

^{*} Compensatory English, Compensatory Reading, and Compensatory Writing shall not be included in the four (4) English courses required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory English may only be taken if a credit-bearing English course is taken in the same school year. The two (2) additional English credits must be from the student's program of study which includes Technical Writing, Creative Writing, English III, English IV, or any college-level dual credit courses.

² Compensatory Mathematics may not be included in the three (3) mathematics courses required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory Mathematics may only be taken if a credit-bearing Math course is taken in the same school year. Math 8 cannot be taken after Algebra I or Integrated Math I. For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one (1) of the required mathematics courses must be above Algebra I or Integrated Math I and selected from the student's program of study. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I or Integrated Math I are: Geometry, Integrated Math II, Algebra II, Integrated Math III, CCSS Advanced Math Plus, Algebra III, SREB Math Ready, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and AP Statistics, or any college-level dual credit courses. Survey of Mathematical Topics, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre- Calculus, Discrete Mathematics, and Statistics meet this requirement if taken prior to the 2015-2016 school year. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra are no longer available after the 2013-2014 school year. Carnegie units may be earned by seventh and eighth graders effective with school year 2014-2015 for the following

courses: CCSS Compacted Math Grade 7, CCSS Math Grade 8, CCSS Compacted Math Grade 8(with Integrated Math I), and CCSS Math Grade 8(with Algebra I/Traditional).

³ For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one (1) of the required science courses must be above Biology I and selected from the student's program of study. If a student's program of study allows, one (1) unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience (AEST). A second science unit may be earned by completing a two-course sequence selected from the following options: Science of Agricultural Animals, Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two (2) units may be in the following courses if the student completes the two-course sequence: Healthcare & Clinical Services I & II, Health Science I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Polymer Science I & II; and Engineering I & II. Effective with school year 2013-14, up to two (2) of the three (3) required science units (excluding Biology I) may be earned by completing Agriculture and Natural Resources I & II. One (1) credit allowed shall be awarded for Biology II, and one-half (1/2) credit shall be awarded for Botany, and one-half (1/2) credit shall be awarded for Field Experiences in Science. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Introduction to Agriscience may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁴ AP U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Post-reconstruction to Present. The third social studies credit should be selected based on the student's program of study.

⁵ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other one-half (1/2) unit social studies course may be accepted.

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An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other one-half (1/2) unit social studies course. Credit earned for Business Fundamentals or Business Fundamentals II may be accepted in lieu of one-half (1/2) unit in Economics. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Mississippi Studies, Geography and Introduction to Agriscience may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁶ Credit earned in Healthcare & Clinical Services I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Contemporary Health to meet the graduation requirement for one-half (1/2) Carnegie unit in Health. Interscholastic athletic activities, band, and ROTC, if they meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework*, may also be accepted.

⁷ Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses must be based on the student's program of study and should include dual credit/dual enrollment options as found in Section 37-15-38 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972*.

⁸ Evidence of proficiency in technology is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one (1) unit in a technology-rich academic or career technical course related to their program of study.

⁹ Electives must be selected from courses related to the student's program of study. Credits earned not approved for that student's program of study will not be counted toward graduation requirements.

¹⁰ Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health meet the health requirement if taken prior to the 2014-2015 school year.

Occupational Diploma (*Policy IHF*)

Note: Beginning with the 2017-2018 School Year, entering 9th graders will not be eligible for the Mississippi Occupational Diploma Pathway. Amended 37-16-11 SB 2432

The requirements for an Occupational Diploma are as follows:

1. The Tishomingo County School District shall offer students with disabilities the option to earn an Occupational Diploma. The local school board shall make provisions for each student to participate in general, career/technical, and special education courses, as appropriate, for meeting graduation requirements. Any student with a disability completing these requirements shall be awarded an Occupational Diploma.
2. Each student completing the program must have an approved Occupational Portfolio containing a collection of evidence of the student's knowledge, skills, abilities, and employment competencies.
3. The individualized education program (IEP) committee shall select a program of study leading toward the regular High School Diploma, the Occupational Diploma, or the Graduation Certificate, and document this decision on the IEP developed during the student's ninth grade year, or the IEP developed during the year prior to the student's sixteenth birthday, whichever occurs first. This decision must be reviewed annually.
4. Each local education agency shall develop procedures for ensuring that students may select and move between courses of study leading to the regular high school diploma, the Occupational Diploma, the Graduation Certificate and the GED, as appropriate.
5. Nothing contained in this rule shall be construed to limit or restrict the right of a student with a disability solely to the Occupational Diploma. When there is indecision regarding which diploma option would be most appropriate for a student, the IEP committee is strongly encouraged to select the higher of the options being considered.
6. The junior high school shall distribute to parents of eighth grade students with disabilities information explaining the Occupational Diploma exit option.

Occupational Diploma Criteria

Criteria for awarding the Occupational Diploma is as follows:

1. Student must have a disability as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
2. Student must earn a minimum of 21 required course credits outlined in the Tishomingo County School District Special Education and regular curriculum.
3. Passing grades in all required courses.
4. The objectives of the IEP should include, but are not limited to, the targeted objectives from the occupational course of study.
5. Student must successfully complete the approved Occupational Portfolio as per State Department of Education guidelines. The following are minimum requirements:
 - a. As each content standard is taught in the core curriculum courses, items of evidence representative of the student's level of acquisition of the content standard must be collected by that teacher and documented in the portfolio. Items of evidence must be included in the student's portfolio for all content standards. A single item of evidence may be used to document more than one content standard and in more than one core curriculum course.
 - b. In the tenth grade, the student must have successful experience and acceptable work performance evaluations in three to six school-based enterprise experiences, six to eight job shadowing experiences, or a combination of the above for a minimum total of 30 hours. This requirement can be waived in lieu of a minimum of 30 hours of other work experiences if agreed upon by the IEP committee. The substituted work experience must be documented and noted in the student's portfolio.
 - c. In the eleventh grade, the student must have successful experience and acceptable work performance evaluations in two to four community-based work training experiences with a minimum total of 30 hours. This requirement may be waived if the student successfully completes a planned sequence of courses (from a career/technical education course of study) in his chosen career/technical education field that designates the student as a "program completer"
 - d. Each student must have documented evidence of a minimum of 540 hours of successful paid employment while enrolled in the Career/Technical Cooperative Education Program by the end of his senior (exiting) year.
 - e. An exit IEP committee meeting must be held before the student graduates to evaluate the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of the IEP and completion of all requirements for the Occupational Diploma. At this meeting, the student will present his or her Occupational Portfolio for review by the IEP committee. Content standards without documentation indicate a need for instruction that must be addressed by the student's IEP committee before the student will be considered a candidate to receive the Occupational Diploma.
 - f. The final Occupational Portfolio will be reviewed and approved prior to graduation by the principal or his/her designee.
6. If a student chooses to change to the Occupational Diploma program in the senior year, regardless of the number and type of credits previously earned, the student must meet the twelfth grade requirement for Career/Technical Cooperative Education to receive the Occupational Diploma. For these students, additional course work and/or community based work training experience may be required. The IEP committee decision regarding the number of community-based work training experiences the student participates in should be based on the student's individual needs. The student's IEP committee must evaluate each decision on a case-by-case basis.