

**POLICY IKF** **Board of Education**  
**Las Cruces Public Schools**

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Related Entries: IKF-RA, IKE, IKE-R, IKAB, JE, JEA, JEA-R, JHB, JHB-R, IHBHD, IHBHD-R, IHBG, IHBG-R, IHBHE, IHBHE-R, IKC, IKC-R, IKFB

Responsible Office: Deputy Superintendent [for Instruction](#)

**GRADUATION AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish graduation requirements for the students of Las Cruces Public Schools

**II. BACKGROUND**

Graduation from Las Cruces Public Schools signifies that students have satisfactorily completed their required course of study. In order to receive a diploma, students must meet all specified requirements as established by the Board of Education, the Superintendent, and the State of New Mexico as outlined in 22-13-1.1, NMSA 1978 and 6.29.1.1 NMAC.

**III. POSITION**

- A. Students entering ninth grade in August 2019, including special education students with an Individualized Education Program, NMAC 6.29.1.9-J-13, must complete twenty-four (24) high school credits to be eligible for a diploma.
- B. The Superintendent, through regulation, shall develop and implement a credit reduction plan for the Class of 2022, Class of 2021, and the Class of 2020. The regulation shall include procedures for informing parents and students of the number of credits needed for graduation for each Class.
- C. At the end of grade eight (8) through eleven (11), each student shall prepare an interim next step plan that sets forth the coursework for the grades remaining until graduation. The plan shall explain any differences from previous next-step plans and shall be filed electronically in the district's student information system. In the case where a paper plan is prepared, a copy signed by the student, the student's parent, and the student's guidance counselor or other school official charged with coursework planning for the student shall be filed with the principal of the high school.
- D. An individualized education program (IEP) that meets all applicable transition and procedural requirements of the federal Individual with

Disabilities Act for a student with a disability shall satisfy the next-step plan requirements.

- E. The next-step planning process shall be based on reports of college and workplace readiness assessments, as available, and other factors to ensure that a student is informed about:
  - 1. Curricular and course options, including honor or advanced placements courses, dual credit courses, distance learning courses, career clusters, pre-apprenticeship programs that the college and workplace readiness assessments indicate to be appropriate;
  - 2. Opportunities available that lead to different post-high school options; and
  - 3. Alternative opportunities available if the student does not finish a planned curriculum.
- F. Once a student has entered ninth grade; the graduation requirements shall not be changed for that student from the requirements specified in New Mexico statutes at the time the student entered ninth grade.
- G. Marching band, junior reserve officers' training corps or any other co-curricular physical activity may qualify as the required physical education requirement. The regulation for this policy shall identify co-curricular courses that meet this requirement.
- H. Bilingual multicultural education shall be provided to meet the identified educational and linguistic needs of identified students as part of their program of studies.
- I. A student shall not be awarded ~~for~~ a New Mexico Diploma of Excellence if the student has not demonstrated competence in the subject areas of mathematics, reading and language arts, writing, social studies, and science, including a section on the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of New Mexico based on standards-based assessments or an alternate demonstration of competency as established by the Board of Education (Policy & Regulation IKFC/IKFC-R).
- J. The superintendent will promulgate a regulation for the enforcement of this policy.

#### **IV. REVIEW AND REPORTING**

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

*Cl Franks*

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*Board of Education, President*

1/22/19

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*Date Approved*

***Policy History:*** Revised 1.15.08; Revised 12.18.12; revised 4.01.14, Revised 11.29.18  
***Legal Reference:*** 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978 and 6.29.1.1 NMAC