



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
4040 NORTH FAIRFAX DRIVE  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22203-1635**

Education Directorate

DoDEA Regulation 2000.1  
July 29, 2004

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
REGULATION**

**SUBJECT: High School Graduation Requirements**

References: (a) DS Regulation 2000.1, "High School Graduation Requirements,"  
August 27, 1999 (hereby canceled)  
(b) DoD Instruction 1342.12, "Provision of Early Intervention and  
Special Education Services to Eligible DoD Dependents,"  
December 16, 2003

**1. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE**

This Regulation reissues reference (a) to update policy and responsibilities for Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) uniform high school graduation requirements.

**2. APPLICABILITY**

This Regulation applies to the Office of the Director, Department of Defense Education Activity; the Director, Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, and Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Cuba (DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba); the Director, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Europe (DoDDS-E); the Director, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Pacific, and Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, Guam (DoDDS-P/DDESS-Guam); and all DoDEA District Superintendents, School Principals, Teachers, Secondary Students, and Support Staff.

**3. DEFINITIONS**

3.1. Carnegie Units of Credit: The awarding of Carnegie units of credit is based on the completion of the academic requirements of a full year, two semester course (one unit), or a one semester course (1/2 unit).

3.2. High School Course: A course bearing the standardized course description in accordance with DoDEA Master Course List which indicates high school level content and awards high school credit.

3.3. Laboratory Course: A science course that devotes a minimum of 40 of the 120 course hours to inquiry activities in which students design and conduct scientific investigations.

3.4. Required and Elective Courses: A required course is a course that every high school student must complete for graduation. An elective course is a credited course, chosen by the student, to meet academic and/or post secondary needs.

3.5. Secondary Student: A student who is enrolled in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12.

3.6. Secondary Grades: Grades 7 through 12.

#### 4. POLICY

It is DoDEA policy that:

4.1. Graduation requirements are determined by the year in which a student enters ninth grade.

4.2. Requirements outlined in enclosure 1 are applicable to Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) classes graduating through June 2007.

4.3. Beginning with the ninth grade class of School Year (SY)2003-04, (graduating in 2007), students will need to have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to graduate from a DoDEA high school.

4.4. Beginning with the ninth grade class of SY 2004-05, (graduating in 2008), students will need a minimum of 26 units of credit and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to graduate from a DoDEA high school.

4.5. Requirements outlined in enclosure 2 will be applicable to classes graduating in 2008 and beyond.

4.6. Students are expected to complete an 8-semester high school program in preparing for graduation.

4.6.1. Upon application to and approval of the principal, students may graduate early after completing graduation requirements if (1) they have clearly demonstrated scholastic aptitude and/or vocational readiness, (2) there is a financial need for early entry into the labor market, or (3) health and other mitigating circumstances would be served.

4.6.2. An application for early graduation must have written parental approval.

4.6.3. Early graduation applications must be submitted to the principal prior to the conclusion of the second week of the first semester by grade 12 students desiring to graduate at the end of the first semester.

4.7. All students qualifying for high school graduation will receive a DoDEA diploma.

4.7.1. Students must be enrolled in a DoDEA high school and complete a minimum of two full year courses during their senior year in order to receive a DoDEA diploma.

4.7.2. Students with disabilities, as defined in reference (b) may qualify for a DoDEA diploma as specified in their Individualized Education Program.

4.7.3. In individual cases, the principal may grant waivers to graduation requirements, if, in his/her opinion, such action is considered to be in the best interest of the student.

4.7.4. Students enrolling in a DoDEA high school during their senior year may receive a DoDEA diploma by meeting the requirements of their previous high school if, through no fault of their own, they cannot meet DoDEA graduation requirements.

4.7.5. Students who complete their junior year enrolled in a DoDEA high school and transfer to another school may be awarded a DoDEA diploma by meeting DoDEA requirements if, through no fault of their own, they cannot meet the requirements of the receiving school.

4.8. Beginning with the graduating class of SY 2007-08, the criterion used to achieve a DoDEA honors diploma will be:

4.8.1. Earn passing course grades and take the requisite exams in a minimum of four Advanced Placement exams; and

4.8.2. Obtain a cumulative grade point average of 3.8 or higher based on student grades attained at the end of the second semester of the graduating year based on DoDEA's grade point average calculation.

4.9. Students who receive a failing grade for the first or second semester of a two semester course shall receive credit for that semester of the course for which a passing grade was achieved. In unusual circumstances and when approved by the principal, students who have failed the first semester course but receive a passing grade for the second semester may receive a full Carnegie unit of credit.

4.10. DoDEA will accept the official grades and courses of students who transfer from accredited public, private and home-school programs. Courses interrupted by transfer may be continued to completion. The principal may exercise judgment in scheduling students into such courses taking into account any loss of time so that the transfer does not impact negatively on the student's chances for successful course completion.

4.11. With approval of the principal, accredited correspondence or online courses may be used to meet DoDEA graduation requirements.

4.12. With approval of the principal, credit by examination is acceptable. Course credit earned through examination may be used to satisfy graduation requirements but will not be used in computing the student's grade point average. The mark of "P" is applicable when issuing a grade for credit by examination.

4.13. Grade 7 and 8 students enrolled in foreign language and/or Algebra I and higher level mathematics courses that award high school credit will earn the appropriate Carnegie units of credit for successful course completion. Credits earned by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will fulfill DoDEA graduation requirements.

4.14. All letter grades for courses taken in grades 9-12 will be averaged to determine class rankings for graduation honors.

4.14.1. If a course is repeated, credit will only be given once and the grade will be for the most recent course taken.

4.14.2. High school courses taken for credit in grades 7 and/or 8 will not be used in the calculation of grade point average or class ranking.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The DoDEA District Superintendents shall certify that DoDEA Principals:

5.1.1. Comply with the policies outlined in this Regulation.

5.1.2. Ensure students and parents recognize that the 26 units required for graduation are a minimum requirement.

5.1.3. Ensure students and parents recognize that accrual of additional units of credit during the students' 4-year high school career will provide them with a distinct advantage in pursuing post-high school education.

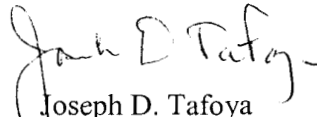
5.1.4. Grant course credit in accordance with standards set by DoDEA accreditation agencies.

5.1.5. Maintain permanent records of courses, grades, credits earned, and all documentation for approval of waivers.

5. 2. Students and parents are responsible for becoming informed of other requirements for their post-secondary school plans.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Regulation is effective immediately.

  
Joseph D. Tafoya  
Director

Enclosures – 2

- E1. DoDDS Graduation Requirements for Students Graduating through June 2007
- E2. Department of Defense Education Activity High School Graduation Requirements

E1. ENCLOSURE 1DoDDS Graduation Requirements for Students Graduating Through June 2007

<b><u>Required Courses</u></b>	<b><u>Units</u></b>
<b>Language Arts 9, 10, 11, 12</b> (2 years of ESL may be substituted for 2 years of English)	4
<b>Social Studies</b> (1 credit of U.S. History and ½ unit of government required)	3
<b>Mathematics</b> (2 credits must be earned in course work that includes algebra and geometry.)	3
<b>Science</b> All courses to meet the science credit requirement must contain a laboratory component as defined in this regulation.	3
<b>Career Education</b> Courses to meet this credit must relate to: industrial technology; computer technology; business education; automotive technology; graphic communications; electricity/electronics; JROTC; school to work transition; family and consumer sciences (formerly home economics); instruction in child care; clothing construction; culinary arts; and/or cosmetology.	1
<b>Second (foreign) Language</b> A total of 2 credits in the same second (foreign) language.	2
<b>Fine Arts</b> Courses used to meet this credit must relate to: visual arts, music, theater, dance, and/or humanities. As part of the curriculum for a course used to meet the requirement, an aesthetic product must be successfully created and displayed or performed in order to earn this credit.	1
<b>Physical Education</b> (PEF 301 and PEL 301)	1
<b>Health</b>	½
<b>Computer Technology and/or Computer Science</b>	1
<b>Sub-Total for Required Courses</b>	19 ½
<b>Sub-Total for Elective Courses</b>	4 ½
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	24

E1. ENCLOSURE 2DoDEA Class of 2008 and Beyond Graduation Requirements

<b><u>Required Courses</u></b>	<b><u>Units</u></b>
<b>English Language Arts 9, 10, 11, 12</b> (2 years of ESL may be substituted for 2 years of English Language Arts.)	4
<b>Social Studies</b> (1 credit of U.S. History, 1 credit of either World Regions or World History, and ½ credit in U.S. Government required.)	3
<b>Mathematics</b> (Algebra I and Geometry are required. The third math credit must have a course code of 400 or above excluding Lab classes.)	3
<b>Science</b> (Biology is required and either a chemistry <b>or</b> physics credit is required. Physics Applications in the Community and Chemistry Applications meet the credit requirements for graduation.)	3
<b>Foreign Language</b> (A total of 2 credits in the same foreign language is required.)	2
<b>Professional Technical Studies</b> (1/2 credit must be in a computer technology.)	2
<b>Physical Education</b>	1½
<b>Fine Arts</b> (Courses used to meet this credit must relate to: visual arts, music, theater, dance, and/or humanities.)	1
<b>Health Education</b>	½
<b>Sub-Total for Required Courses</b>	20
<b>Sub-Total for Elective Courses</b>	6
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	26