

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPOSED RULES

Pursuant to the State Board of Education's established rulemaking procedures, notice is hereby given to the general public that a hearing will be held; open to the public as specified below.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Christine Thompson, (602) 542-5057. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

DATED AND POSTED this 2nd day of October, 2015

Arizona State Board of Education

By: _____



Christine M. Thompson
Executive Director
(602) 542-5057

AGENDA

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC HEARING ON RULES

Tuesday, Oct. 20th, 2015

2:00 PM

Arizona Department of Education
1535 W. Jefferson, Conf. Room 122
Phoenix, AZ 85007

A. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

1. Opportunity to provide comments and recommendations on proposed State Board of Education rule R7-2-302, regarding high school graduation requirements.

Copies of the proposed rules are available on the State Board of Education's website at:

<http://azsbe.az.gov/rules>

R7-2-302. Minimum Course of Study and Competency Requirements for Graduation from High School

The Board prescribes the minimum course of study and competency requirements as outlined in subsections (1) through (5) and, beginning with the graduating class of 2017, receipt of a passing score of sixty correct answers out of one hundred questions on a civics test identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services as prescribed in A.R.S. §15-701.01(A)(2) ~~on the reading, mathematics, and writing portions of the AIMS (Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards) assessment for the graduation of pupils from high school or issuance of a high school diploma, effective for the graduation class of 2013.~~

1. Subject area course requirements. The Board establishes 22 credits as the minimum number of credits necessary for high school graduation. Students shall obtain credits for required subject areas as specified in subsections (1)(a) through (e) based on completion of subject area course requirements or competency requirements. At the discretion of the local school district governing board or charter school, credits may be awarded for completion of elective subjects specified in subsection (1)(f) based on completion of subject area course requirements or competency requirements. The awarding of a credit toward the completion of high school graduation requirements shall be based on successful completion of the subject area requirements prescribed by the State Board and local school district governing board or charter school as follows:
 - a. Four credits of English or English as a Second Language, which shall include but not be limited to the following: grammar, writing, and reading skills, advanced grammar, composition, American literature, advanced composition, research methods and skills

and literature. One-half credit of the English requirement shall include the principles of speech and debate but not be limited to those principles.

b. Three credits in social studies to include the following:

i. One credit of American history, including Arizona history;

ii. One credit of world history/geography;

iii. One-half credit of American government, including Arizona government; and

iv. One-half credit of economics.

c. Four credits of mathematics to minimally include:

i. Two credits containing course content covering the following areas in preparation for proficiency at the high school level on the ~~AIMS test~~ statewide assessment: Number Sense and Operations; Data Analysis, Probability and Discrete Mathematics; Patterns, Algebra and Functions; Geometry and Measurement; and Structure and Logic. These credits shall be taken consecutively beginning with the ninth grade unless a student meets these requirements prior to the ninth grade pursuant to subsection (1)(c)(iv).

ii. One credit covering Algebra II or course content equivalent to Algebra II. Courses meeting this requirement may include, but are not limited to, career and technical education and vocational education, economics, science, and arts courses as determined by the local school district governing board or charter school.

iii. One credit that includes significant mathematics content as determined by the local school district governing board or charter school.

iv. Courses successfully completed prior to the ninth grade that meet the high school mathematics credit requirements may be applied toward satisfying those requirements.

v. The mathematics requirements may be modified for students using a personal curriculum pursuant to R7-2-302.03.

d. Three credits of science in preparation for proficiency at the high school level on the ~~AIMS test~~ statewide assessment.

e. One credit of fine arts or career and technical education and vocational education.

f. Seven credits of additional courses prescribed by the local school district governing board or charter school.

g. A credit or partial credit may apply toward more than one subject area but shall count only as one credit or partial credit toward satisfying the 22 required credits.

2. Credits earned through correspondence courses to meet graduation requirements shall be taken from an accredited institution as defined in R7-2-601. Credits earned thereby shall be limited to four, and only one credit may be earned in each of the following subject areas:

a. English as described in subsection (1)(a) of this Section,

b. Social Studies,

c. Mathematics, and

d. Science.

3. Online and distance education courses may be offered by the local governing board or charter school if the course is provided through an Arizona Online Instruction Program established pursuant to ARS §15-808.

4. Local school district governing boards or charter schools may grant to career and technical education and vocational education program completers a maximum of 5 1/2

credits to be used toward the Board English, mathematics, science, and economics credit requirements for graduation, subject to the following restrictions:

- a. The Board has approved the career and technical education and vocational education program for equivalent credit to be used toward the Board English, mathematics, science, and economics credit requirements for graduation.
- b. A credit or partial credit may apply toward more than one subject area but shall count only as one credit or partial credit toward satisfying the 22 required credits.
- c. A student who satisfies any part of the Board English, mathematics, science, and economics requirements through the completion of a career and technical education and vocational education program shall still be required to earn 22 total credits to meet the graduation requirements prescribed in this Section.

5. Competency requirements.

- a. The awarding of a credit toward the completion of high school graduation requirements shall be based on the successful completion of State Board-adopted academic standards for subject areas listed in subsections (1)(a) through (1) (e) and the successful completion of the competency requirements for the elective subjects specified in subsection (1)(f). Competency requirements for elective subjects as specified in subsection (1) (f) shall be the academic standards adopted by the State Board. If there are no adopted academic standards for an elective subject, the local school district governing board or charter school shall be responsible for developing and adopting competency requirements for the successful completion of the elective subject. The school district governing board or charter school shall be responsible for developing and adopting the method and manner in which to administer a test that is identical to the

civics portion of the naturalization test used by the united states citizenship and immigration services, and a pupil who does not obtain a passing score on the test may retake the test until the pupil obtains a passing score.

b. The determination and verification of student accomplishment and performance shall be the responsibility of the subject area teacher.

c. Upon request of the student, the local school district governing board or charter school shall provide the opportunity for the student to demonstrate competency in the subject areas listed in subsections (1)(a) through (1)(f) of this Section above in lieu of classroom time.

6. The local school district governing board or charter school shall be responsible for developing a course of study and graduation requirements for all students placed in special education programs in accordance with A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 4 and A.A.C. R7-2-401 et seq. Students placed in special education classes, grades 9-12, are eligible to receive a high school diploma upon completion of graduation requirements, but reference to special education placement may be placed on the student's transcript or permanent file.