

1 **R7-2-301. Minimum Course of Study and Competency Goals for Students in the Common**  
2 **Schools**

3 A. Students shall demonstrate competency as defined by the State Board-adopted  
4 ~~Essential Skills~~ academic standards, at the grade levels specified, in the following required  
5 subject areas. District and charter school instructional programs shall include an ongoing  
6 assessment of student progress toward meeting the competency requirements. These shall  
7 include the successful completion of the academic standards in at least reading, writing,  
8 mathematics, science and social studies, as determined by district and/or statewide assessments.

9 1. ~~English Language~~ language arts

10 2. ~~Literature~~

11 3. ~~2.~~ Mathematics

12 4. ~~3.~~ Science

13 5. ~~4.~~ Social Studies; including civics

14 6. ~~Musie~~

15 7. ~~5. Visual Arts~~ The Arts, which may consist of two or more of the following: visual  
16 arts, dance, theatre, music or media arts

17 8. ~~6.~~ Health/Physical Education

18 9. ~~Foreign or native American Language (includes modern and classical)~~

19 B. The local governing board or charter school may prescribe course of study and  
20 competency requirements for promotion that are in addition to or higher than the course of study  
21 and competency requirements the State Board of Education prescribes. Additional subjects may  
22 be offered by the local governing board or charter school as options and may include, but are not  
23 limited to:

1                   1. ~~Performing Arts~~ Career and Technical Education

2                   2. ~~Practical Arts~~ Computer Science

3                   3. Educational Technology

4                   4. World and Native Languages

5                   **C.** Prior to the issuance of a standard certificate of promotion from the 8th grade, each  
6 student shall demonstrate competency, as defined by the local governing board, of the State  
7 Board of Education adopted ~~Essential Skills~~ academic standards for grade 8 in the subject  
8 areas listed in subsection (A).

9                   **D.** Special education and promotion from the 8th grade.

10                   1. The charter school or local governing board of each school district shall be  
11 responsible for developing a course of study and graduation requirements for all students placed  
12 in special education programs in accordance with R7-2-401 et seq.

13                   2. Students placed in special education classes in grades K-8 are eligible to  
14 receive the standard certificate of promotion without meeting State Board of Education  
15 competency requirements, ~~but reference to special education shall be placed on the student's~~  
16 ~~transcript or in the permanent file.~~

17                   **E.** Online and distance education courses may be offered by the local governing board or  
18 charter school if the course is provided through an Arizona Online Instruction Program  
19 established pursuant to A.R.S. §15-808.

20                   **F.** Alternative Demonstration of Competency. Upon request of the student, the local  
21 school district governing board or charter school shall provide the opportunity for a student in  
22 grades seven and eight to demonstrate competency in the subject areas listed in subsection (A)  
23 in lieu of classroom time.

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

3 The Board prescribes the minimum course of study and competency requirements as outlined in  
4 subsections (1) through (5) and, beginning with the graduating class of 2017, receipt of a  
5 passing score of sixty correct answers out of one hundred questions on a civics test identical to  
6 the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and  
7 Immigration Services as prescribed in A.R.S. § 15-701.01(A)(2).

8 1. Subject area course requirements. The Board establishes 22 credits as the minimum  
9 number of credits necessary for high school graduation. Students shall obtain credits for  
10 required subject areas as specified in subsections (1)(a) through (e) based on completion of  
11 subject area course requirements or competency requirements. At the discretion of the local  
12 school district governing board or charter school, credits may be awarded for completion of  
13 elective subjects specified in subsection (1)(f) based on completion of subject area course  
14 requirements or competency requirements. The awarding of a credit toward the completion of  
15 high school graduation requirements shall be based on successful completion of the subject area  
16 requirements prescribed by the State Board and local school district governing board or charter  
17 school as follows:

18 a. Four credits of English or English as a Second Language, which shall include  
19 but not be limited to the following: ~~grammar, writing, and reading skills, advanced grammar,~~  
20 ~~composition, American literature, advanced composition, research methods and skills and~~  
21 ~~literature-reading~~ American and other world literature, reading informational text, writing,  
22 research methods, speaking and listening skills, grammar, and vocabulary. ~~One-half credit of~~

1 ~~the English requirement shall include the principles of speech and debate but not be limited to~~  
2 ~~those principles.~~

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

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

5 ii. One credit of world history/geography;

6 iii. One-half credit of American government, including civics and

7 Arizona government; and

8 iv. One-half credit in economics.

9 c. Four credits of mathematics to minimally include:

10 i. ~~Two~~Three credits containing course content ~~covering the following~~

11 ~~areas~~ in preparation for proficiency at the high school level on the statewide assessment and

12 aligned to the Arizona Mathematics Standards for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II :

13 ~~Number Sense and Operations; Data Analysis, Probability and Discrete Mathematics; Patterns,~~

14 ~~Algebra and Functions; Geometry and Measurement; and Structure and Logic.~~ These three

15 credits shall be taken ~~consecutively~~ beginning with the ninth grade unless a student meets these

16 requirements prior to the ninth grade pursuant to subsection (1)(c)~~(iv)~~(iii). The requirement for

17 the third credit covering Algebra II, may be met by, but is not limited to the following: a math

18 course comparable to Algebra II course content; computer science, career and technical

19 education and vocational education, economics, science and arts courses as determined by the

20 local school district governing board or charter school.

21 ii. ~~One credit, covering Algebra II or course content equivalent to~~

22 ~~Algebra II. Courses meeting this requirement may include, but are not limited to, career and~~

23 ~~technical education and vocational education, economics, science, and arts courses as~~

1 ~~determined by the local school district governing board or charter school.~~

2                   iii. ~~ii.~~ One A fourth credit that includes significant mathematics content  
3 as determined by the local school district governing board or charter school.

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

7                   ~~v.~~ iv. The mathematics requirements may be modified for students using  
8 a ~~personal curriculum~~ Personal Curriculum pursuant to R7-2-302.03.

9                   d. Three credits of science in preparation for proficiency at the high school level  
10 on the statewide assessment.

11                   e. One credit of ~~fine arts~~ the Arts or career and technical education and  
12 vocational education.

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

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

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

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

21                   b. Social Studies,

22                   c. Mathematics, and

23                   d. Science.

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

4           4. Local school district governing boards or charter schools may grant to career and  
5 technical education and vocational education program completers a maximum of 5 ½ credits to  
6 be used toward the Board English, mathematics, science, and economics credit requirements for  
7 graduation, subject to the following restrictions:

8           a. The Board has approved the career and technical education and vocational  
9 education program for equivalent credit to be used toward the Board English, mathematics,  
10 science, and economics credit requirements for graduation.

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

13           c. A student who satisfies any part of the Board English, mathematics, science,  
14 and economics requirements through the completion of a career and technical education and  
15 vocational education program shall still be required to earn 22 total credits to meet the  
16 graduation requirements prescribed in this Section.

17           5. Competency requirements.

18           a. The awarding of a credit toward the completion of high school graduation  
19 requirements shall be based on the requirements outlined in A.R.S. § 15-701.01 and the  
20 successful completion of State Board-adopted academic standards for subject areas listed in  
21 subsections (1)(a) through (1)(e) and the successful completion of the competency  
22 requirements for the elective subjects specified in subsection (1)(f). Competency requirements  
23 for elective subjects as specified in subsection (1)-(f) shall be the academic standards adopted by

1 the State Board. If there are no adopted academic standards for an elective subject, the local  
2 school district governing board or charter school shall be responsible for developing and  
3 adopting competency requirements for the successful completion of the elective subject. The  
4 school district governing board or charter school shall be responsible for developing and  
5 adopting the method and manner in which to administer a test that is identical to the civics  
6 portion of the naturalization test used by the ~~united states citizenship and immigration services~~  
7 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and a pupil who does not obtain a passing  
8 score on the test may retake the test until the pupil obtains a passing score.

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

11           c. Upon request of the student, the local school district governing board or  
12 charter school shall provide the opportunity for the student to demonstrate competency in the  
13 subject areas listed in subsections (1)(a) through (1)(f) of this Section above in lieu of classroom  
14 time. In appropriate courses, a school district governing board or charter school shall include as  
15 a mechanism to demonstrate competency a score determined by the State Board as college and  
16 career ready on the ~~competency test~~ appropriate assessment adopted by the State Board pursuant  
17 to A.R.S. §§ 15-741 or 15-741.01.

18           6. The local school district governing board or charter school shall be responsible for  
19 developing a course of study and graduation requirements for all students placed in special  
20 education programs in accordance with A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 4 and A.A.C. R7-2-  
21 401 et seq. Students placed in special education classes, grades 9-12, are eligible to receive a  
22 high school diploma upon completion of graduation requirements, ~~but reference to special~~  
23 ~~education placement may be placed on the student's transcript or permanent file.~~