

## STANDARDS OF LEARNING TESTS AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### I. Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests and Verified Units of Credit

The Board of Education has established educational objectives known as the Standards of Learning, which form the core of Virginia's educational program, and other education objectives, which together are designed to ensure the development of the skills that are necessary for success in school and in preparation for life in the years beyond.

The Tazewell County School Board has developed and implemented a program of instruction that is aligned to the Standards of Learning and that meets or exceeds the requirements of the Board of Education.

In kindergarten through eighth grade, where Standards of Learning (SOL) tests are required by the Board of Education, each student is expected to take the SOL tests. Students who are accelerated take the tests of the grade level enrolled or the tests for the grade level of the content received in instruction. No student takes more than one test in any content area in each year. Schools will use the SOL test results in kindergarten through eighth grade as part of a set of multiple criteria for determining the promotion or retention of students.

Each student in middle and secondary school will take all applicable end-of-course SOL tests following course instruction. Students who achieve a passing score on an end-of-course SOL test will be awarded a verified unit of credit in that course in accordance with 8 VAC 20-131-110. Students may earn verified credits in any courses for which end-of-course SOL tests are available. Middle and secondary schools may consider the student's end-of-course SOL test score in determining the student's final course grade.

The standard unit of credit for graduation is based on a minimum of 140 clock hours of instruction and successful completion of the requirements of the course. A standard unit of credit may also be awarded based on a waiver of the 140-clock hour requirement as provided in Policy IKFD Alternative Paths to Attaining Standard Units of Credit.

A verified unit of credit for graduation is based on a minimum of 140 clock hours of instruction, successful completion of the requirements of the course, and the achievement by the student of a passing score on the end-of-course SOL test for that course or additional tests as described below.

A student may also earn a verified unit of credit by the following methods:

- in accordance with the provisions of the Standards of Quality, students may earn a standard and verified unit of credit for any elective course in which the core academic SOL course content has been integrated and the student passes the related end-of-course SOL test. Such course and test combinations must be approved by the Board of Education.
- upon waiver of the 140-clock-hour requirement according to the Board of Education's Guidelines for Graduation Requirements; Local Alternative Paths to Standard Units of Credit and Policy IKFD Alternative Paths to Attaining Standard Units of Credit qualified students who have received a standard unit of credit will be permitted to sit for the relevant SOL test to earn a verified credit without having to meet the 140-clock-hour requirement.

Students may also earn verified credits by taking alternative tests to the SOL assessment. Such tests may only be those approved by the Virginia Board of Education, and the student may earn verified credits only by achieving that score established by the Board of Education.

Participation in the SOL testing program by students with disabilities will be prescribed by provisions of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan. All students with disabilities will be assessed with appropriate accommodations and alternate assessments where necessary.

All students identified as limited English proficient (LEP) will participate in the SOL testing program. A school-based committee will convene and make determinations regarding the participation level of LEP students. In kindergarten through eighth grade, limited English proficient students may be granted a one-time exemption from SOL testing in the areas of writing, science, and history and social science.

## II. Graduation Requirements

### A. Generally

The School Board will award diplomas to all secondary school students, including students who transfer from nonpublic schools or from home instruction, who earn the units of credit prescribed by the Board of Education, pass the prescribed tests, and meet such other requirements as are prescribed by the School Board and approved by the Board of Education.

### B. Types of Diplomas and Certificates

Tazewell County School Board will award diplomas and certificates in accordance with state laws and regulations.

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma are those in effect when the student enters ninth grade for the first time.

Adopted: April 11, 2016

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Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-253.13:1, 22.1-253.13:4.

8 VAC 20-131-30.

8 VAC 20-131-50.

8 VAC 20-131-110.

Guidelines for Graduation Requirements; Local Alternative Paths to Standard Units of Credit (Virginia Board of Education Oct. 2015)

Cross Refs.:	IAA	Notification of Learning Objectives
	IKFA	Locally Awarded Verified Credits
	IKFD	Alternative Paths to Attaining Standard Units of Credit

## INSTRUCTION

### Student Evaluation and Grading/Class Rank

#### A. Grading

The relationship between the alpha grade and its numeric equivalent for grades 1-12 in the Tazewell County schools is as follows:

- A = 93-100
- B = 85-92
- C = 77-84
- D = 70-76
- F = Below 70

Written progress reports and parental conferences shall be substituted for formal grades at the kindergarten level.

#### B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines

1. Board of Education regulations require that courses taken below the ninth grade level that are identified as ninth grade or above, plus all other courses classified as ninth through twelfth grade, be included in determination of the required grade point average for the Board of Education seal and/or the Governor's seal. Courses taken during the second semester of the senior year shall be included.
2. All enrolled students will be tentatively ranked at the end of the first semester of the senior year. Final rank in class will be determined at the end of the second semester of the senior year.
3. All state approved Advanced Placement (AP) courses shall be weighted for computing a student's grade point average. A numerical .036 add-on will be used to compute a student's grade point average.
4. Only students completing all requirements at the end of the second semester for graduation will be eligible for the academic honors of Valedictorian or Salutatorian. To be eligible as valedictorian or salutatorian a student must have completed the last four (4) consecutive semesters in Tazewell County Public Schools.
5. Students who complete graduation requirements in summer school will retain their previously determined class rank.

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INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class Rank (continued)

B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines (continued)

6. Rank in class shall be determined by assigning a constant numerical value to the letter grade on which a unit or fractional unit of credit was based in each course.

All Courses Except  
Advanced Placement

A=4  
B=3  
C=2  
D=1  
F=0

Advanced Placement  
Courses

Weighted Course Add-On

A=.036  
B=.036  
C=.036

Example:

Jane Doe: 31.5 total credits, including  
26.5 regular classes with "A's" in each one  
5 AP classes with 3 "A's" and 2 "B's"

$$\begin{array}{r} 29.5 \times 4 = 118 \\ 2 \times 3 = \underline{6} \\ 124 \end{array}$$

$$124/31.5 = 3.937 \text{ Base GPA}$$

Five AP courses produce  $.036 \times 5 = 0.180$  add on for weighted course work.  
 $3.937 \text{ Base GPA plus } 0.180 \text{ weighted course add-on} = 4.117 \text{ Official GPA}$

7. Only final grades for each course attempted shall be used in the computation of the final grade point average.
8. Courses repeated will be recorded on the transcript in compliance with the *Regulations Governing Secondary Transcripts, Standards for Accrediting Virginia Public Schools, and Guidelines for the Management of the Student's Scholastic Record in Virginia Public Schools.*

INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class Rank

B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines

- 9. If a combination of circumstances should produce a ranking which the school principal deems to be unfair, he/she may act to correct the injustice, with School Board approval. Such action would rarely be necessary.
- 10. In computation of rank in class, all final ranks shall be calculated at four decimal places and rounded to the nearest three decimal places. (See example below.) Rank, except for ties, will reflect the number of students at and above any given rank.

<u>Student</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Rank in Class</u>
A	3.8624	3.862	1
B	3.8452	3.845	2
C	3.8454	3.845	2
D	3.8067	3.807	4
E	3.8068	3.807	4
F	3.7732	3.773	6

- 11. Students with a GPA of 3.5 and above will be awarded academic letters and bars. The GPA will be computed annually for the purpose of awarding academic letters and bars.
- 12. "Valedictorian" and "salutatorian" designations for honoring graduates will continue to be used and will be supplemented by a system which recognizes students who achieve grade point averages within the following ranges:

Summa Cum Laude	GPA Greater than 4.000
Magna Cum Laude	GPA of 3.750 up to and including 4.000
Cum Laude	GPA of 3.500 up to and including 3.749

- 13. The final designation of honor graduates shall be presented to the Division Superintendent for review.

Approved by School Board: January 12, 1987  
 Amended by School Board: September 10, 1990  
 Amended by School Board: September 13, 1993  
 Amended by School Board: January 13, 1997

Amended by School Board: December 14, 1998  
 Amended by School Board: August 14, 2000  
 Amended by School Board: August 13, 2001  
 Amended by School Board: December 3, 2001  
 Amended by School Board: September 13, 2004  
 Amended by School Board: May 8, 2006

## INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class RankA. Student Evaluation and Grading

The classroom teacher shall be responsible for the grading or evaluation of his/her student's achievements in class. The respective school principal shall have the prerogative of reviewing grades assigned by teachers and to resolve questionable matters. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing and implementing a uniform procedure for evaluation student progress.

All students taking courses for high school credit must take semester and final exams. The only exception is for seniors having at least a "B" average and missing no more than seven (7) days per semester. Seniors qualifying for the exception may be exempt from the final exam(s).

Students who pass the end of course Standards of Learning tests may substitute their SOL score for the final exam(s) based on the following criteria:

Students who pass the EOC SOL test with a pass proficient score (400-499) will receive a 90 for the final exam in the course.

Students who pass the EOC SOL test with a pass advanced score (500-600) will receive a 100 for the final exam in the course.

The length of exams will be two hours and the exam will count as 1/5 of the semester average. For seniors who are exempt from the final exam, each six weeks grade during second semester will count 1/3 of the semester average. Student attendance is required for all classes during examination periods. Final exams will be given according to the established examination schedule.

B. Class Rank

All enrolled students will be tentatively ranked at the end of the first semester of the senior year.

Final rank in class will be determined at the end of the second semester of the senior year.

Approved by School Board: August 13, 2001

Amended by School Board: May 29, 2002

Amended by School Board: March 8, 2004

## INSTRUCTION

Graduation RequirementsI. Learning Goals

Each school shall provide learning goals to be achieved by students at successive levels of development and shall continually assess the progress of each student in relation to these goals and the goals of education in Virginia as promulgated by the Board of Education.

II. Literacy Tests

Students shall pass the literacy tests prescribed by the Board of Education in reading, writing, and mathematics in order to be promoted to the ninth grade except for identified handicapped students who are progressing according to the objectives of their individualized education program (IEP). Students transferring to a Virginia public school prior to the 9th grade shall also be required to pass the literacy tests in order to be promoted to the 9th grade. Students who are not promoted shall be enrolled in alternative programs leading to one or more of the following:

1. Passing the literacy tests;
2. High School Graduation;
3. General Education Development (GED) Certificate;
4. Certificate of Program Completion; and
5. Job-entry skills.

III. Requirements for Graduation

- A. The requirements for a student to earn a diploma from a Virginia high school shall be those in effect when that student enters ninth grade for the first time. Students may be awarded a diploma or certificate upon graduation from a Virginia high school.

When students below the ninth grade successfully complete courses offered for credit in grades nine through twelve, credit shall be counted toward meeting the standard units required for graduation provided the courses meet SOL content requirements or are equivalent in content and academic rigor as those courses offered at the secondary level. To earn a verified unit of credit for these courses, students must meet the requirements of 8 VAC 20-131-110.B.

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## INSTRUCTION

Graduation RequirementsIII. A. Requirements for Graduation (continued)

The following requirements shall be the only requirements for a diploma, unless a local school board has prescribed additional requirements which have been approved by the Board. All additional requirements prescribed by local school boards, and in effect as of June 30, 1997, are approved to continue those requirements pending further action by the Board. The requirements for Certificates of Program Completion are developed by local school boards in accordance with the Standards of Quality.

B. Requirements for a Standard Diploma.

1. Beginning with the ninth grade class of 1998-99, students shall earn the standard units of credit outlined in subdivision 4 of this subsection.
2. During a transition period applicable only to ninth grade classes of 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03, students shall earn the standard units of credit described in subdivision 4 of this subsection and the following number of verified units of credit (see 8 VAC 20-131-110):
  - a. English-two
  - b. Four additional verified units of credit of the student's own choosing.
3. Beginning with the ninth grade classes of 2003-04 and beyond, students shall earn the required standard and verified units of credit described in subdivision 4 of this subsection.

## INSTRUCTION

Graduation RequirementsB. Requirements for Standard Diploma (continued)

## 4. Credits required for graduation with a Standard Diploma.

Discipline Area	Standard Units of Credit Required	Verified Credits Required
English	4	2
Mathematics <sup>1</sup>	3	1
Laboratory Science <sup>2</sup>	3	1
History and Social Sciences <sup>3</sup>	3	1
Health and Physical Education	2	
Fine Arts or Practical Arts	1	
Electives <sup>4</sup>	6	
Student Selected Test <sup>5</sup>		1
Total	22	6

<sup>1</sup>include at least two course selections from among Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of algebra and geometry. The Board may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>2</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least two different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics. The Board may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>3</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and one world history/geography course. Courses which satisfy the world history/geography requirement are: (i) World History, (ii) World Geography, (iii) World History and Geography Part I, (iv) World History and Geography, or (v) a semester course of World History Part I and a semester course of World Geography. The Board may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>4</sup>Beginning with the graduating class of 2003, courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.

<sup>5</sup>A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.B.

Students completing the requirements for the Standard Diploma may be eligible to receive an honor deemed appropriate by the local school board as described in subsection F of this section.

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## INSTRUCTION

## Graduation Requirements (continued)

C. Requirements for Advanced Studies Diploma.

1. Beginning with the ninth grade class of 1998-99, students shall earn the standard units of credit outlined in subdivision 2 of this subsection. Beginning with the ninth grade class of 2000-01, students shall earn the standard and verified units of credit outlined in subdivision 2 of this subsection.
2. Credits required for graduation with an Advanced Studies Diploma.

Discipline Area	Standard Units of Credit Required	Verified Credits Required
English	4	2
Mathematics <sup>1</sup>	4	2
Laboratory Science <sup>2</sup>	4	2
History and Social Sciences <sup>3</sup>	4	2
Foreign Language <sup>4</sup>	3	
Health and Physical Education	2	
Fine Arts or Practical Arts	1	
Electives	2	
Student Selected Test <sup>5</sup>		1
Total	24	9

<sup>1</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall be at or above the level of algebra and shall include at least three different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>2</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>3</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and two world history/geography courses. Acceptable courses to satisfy the world history/geography requirements include: (i) World History and World Geography, (ii) World History and Geography Part I, and World History and Geography Part II; or (iii) a semester course of World Geography, a semester course of World History Part I, and a year-long course of World History Part II. The Board may approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

<sup>4</sup>Three years of one language or two years each of two languages.

<sup>5</sup>A student may utilize additional assessments for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, or other areas as prescribed by the Board in

## INSTRUCTION

Graduation RequirementsC. Requirements for Advanced Studies Diploma (continued)

Students completing the requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma may be eligible to receive an honor deemed appropriate by the local school board as described in subsection F of this section.

D. Requirements of the Modified Standard Diploma

- 1) The Modified Standard Diploma program is intended for certain students at the secondary level who have a disability and are unlikely to meet the credit requirements for a Standard Diploma. Eligibility and participation in the Modified Standard Diploma program shall be determined by the student's Individual Education Program (IEP team and the student, where appropriate, at any point after the student's eighth grade year).
- 2) The school must secure the informed written consent of the parent/guardian and the student to choose this diploma program after review of the student's academic history and the full disclosure of the student's options.
- 3) The student who has chosen to pursue a Modified Standard Diploma shall also be allowed to pursue the Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma at any time throughout that student's high school career. The student must not be excluded from courses and tests required to earn a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma.
- 4) Beginning with the ninth grade class of 2000-01, students pursuing the Modified Standard Diploma shall pass literacy and numeracy competency assessments prescribed by the Board.

## INSTRUCTION

Graduation Requirements (continued)D. Requirements for a Modified Standard Diploma (continued)

## 5) Credits required for graduation with a Modified Standard Diploma.

Discipline Area	Standards Units Of Credit Required
English	4
Mathematics <sup>1</sup>	3
Science <sup>2</sup>	2
History and Social Science <sup>3</sup>	2
Health and Physical Education	2
Fine Arts or Practical Arts	
Electives <sup>4</sup>	6
Total	20

<sup>1</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include content from among applications of algebra, geometry, personal finance, and statistics in courses that have been approved by the Board.

<sup>2</sup>Courses completed shall include content from at least two of the following: applications of earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics in courses approved by the Board.

<sup>3</sup>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia History and one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia Government in courses approved by the Board.

<sup>4</sup>Beginning with the graduating class of 2003, courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives in the same manner required for the Standard Diploma.

6) The student must meet any additional criteria established by the Board. E.

Certificate of Program Completion

Students who successfully complete all academic coursework required for either the Advanced Studies or Standard Diploma, but who have not yet obtained the necessary verified credits required by the state for the awarding of a diploma, will be awarded a Certificate of Program Completion and permitted to participate in graduation. Students who are awarded a Certificate of Program Completion may continue to take the Standards of Learning tests needed to upgrade their certificate to a diploma.

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Graduation Requirements (continued)

- F. In accordance with the requirements of the Standards of Quality, students with disabilities who complete the requirements of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) and do not meet the requirements for other diplomas shall be awarded Special Diplomas.
- G. In accordance with the requirements of the Standards of Quality, students who complete prescribed programs of studies defined by the local school board but do not qualify for diplomas shall be awarded Certificates of Program Completion.
- H. In accordance with the provisions of the compulsory attendance law and 8 VAC 20-360-10, et. Seq., *Regulations Governing General Education Development Certificates*, students who do not qualify for diplomas may earn a high school equivalency credential.
- I. At a student's request, the local school board shall communicate or otherwise make known to institutions of higher education, potential employers, or other applicable third parties, in a manner that the local school board deems appropriate, that student has attained the state's academic expectations by earning a Virginia diploma and that the value of such a diploma is not affected in any way by the accreditation status of the student's school.
- J. Awards for exemplary student performance. Students who demonstrate academic excellence and/or outstanding achievement may be eligible for one of the following awards:
1. Students who complete the requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of "B" or better, and successfully complete at least one advanced placement course (AP), international baccalaureate (IB), or one college-level course for credit, will receive the Governor's Seal on the diploma.
  2. Students who complete the requirements for a Standard Diploma with an average grade of "A" will receive a Board of Education Seal on the diploma.
  3. The Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Seal will be awarded to students who earn a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma and complete a prescribed sequence of courses in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that they choose and maintain a "B" or better average in those courses; or (i) pass an examination in a career and technical education concentration, or specialization that confers certification from a recognized industry, trade or professional association or (ii) acquire a professional license in that career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia.
  4. The Board of Education's Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology will be awarded to students who earn either a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma (four units of credit including Algebra II; two verified units of credit with a "B" average or better; and (ii) either (a) pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association; (b) acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia; or (c) pass an examination approved by the Board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area.

(continued)

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## INSTRUCTION

Graduation Requirements (continued)J. Awards for Exemplary Student Performance (continued)

5. Students may receive other seals or awards for exceptional academic, career and technical, citizenship, or other exemplary performance in accordance with criteria defined by the local school board.

K. Students completing graduation requirements in a summer school accredited under this chapter shall be eligible for a diploma. The last school attended by the student during the regular session shall award the diploma unless otherwise agreed upon by the principals of the two schools.

L. Students who complete advanced placement, college-level, or courses required for an International Baccalaureate Diploma shall be deemed to have completed the requirements for graduation under these standards provided they have earned the standard units of credit and earned verified units of credit in accordance with the requirements of subsections B and C of this section.

M. Students shall be counseled annually regarding the opportunities for using substitute tests for earning verified credits as provided in 8 VAC 20-131-110.B. and the consequences of failing to fulfill the obligations to complete the requirements for verified units of credit.

IV. Transfer of Credits

A. Students transferring into a Virginia public school shall be required to meet the requirements prescribed in 8 VAC 20-131-50 to receive a Standard, Advanced Studies, or Modified Standard Diploma, except as provided in subsection F of this section. To receive a Special Diploma or Certificate of Program Completion, a student must meet the requirements prescribed by the Standards of Quality.

B. Standard or verified units of credit earned by a student in a Virginia public school shall be transferable, without limitation, regardless of the accreditation status of the Virginia public school in which the credits were earned.

C. Records of transferred students shall be sent directly to the school receiving the student upon request of the receiving school, in accordance with the provisions of the 8 VAC 20-150-10 et seq., "*Management of the Student's Scholastic Records in Virginia.*"

## INSTRUCTION

## Graduation Requirements (continued)

IV. Transfer of Credits (continued)

- D. The academic record of a student transferring into the school division from other than a Virginia public school, shall be evaluated to determine the number of standard units of credit that have been earned, including units of credit from schools outside the United States, and the number of verified units of credit needed to graduate in accordance with Subsection F of this section. Virginia public schools shall accept standard and verified units of credit from other Virginia public schools and state-operated programs. Standard units of credit also shall be accepted for courses satisfactorily completed in accredited colleges and universities when prior written approval of the principal has been granted or the student has been given credit by the previous school attended.
- E. Students transferring above the tenth grade from schools or other education programs that do not require or give credit for health and physical education shall not be required to take these courses to meet graduation requirements.
- F. Students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time after the tenth grade shall be encouraged to earn as many credits as possible toward the graduation requirements prescribed in 8 VAC 20-131-50. However, no such student shall earn fewer than the following number of verified units, nor shall such student be required to take SOL tests or other additional tests defined in 8 VAC 20-131-110.B. for verified units of credit in courses previously completed at another school or program of study, unless necessary to meet the requirements listed in subdivisions 1 and 2 of this subsection:
1. For a Standard Diploma:
    - a. Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time during the ninth grade or at the beginning of the tenth grade shall earn credits as prescribed in 8 VAC 20-131 - 50;
    - b. Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time during the tenth grade or at the beginning of the eleventh grade shall earn a minimum of four verified units of credit: one each in English, mathematics, history, and science; except that during the transition period 2000-01 through 2002-03, students shall earn one in English and three of the student's own choosing; and
    - c. Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time during the eleventh grade or at the beginning of the twelfth grade shall earn a minimum of two verified units of credit one in English and one of the student's choosing.



## INSTRUCTION

Transfer of Credits (continued)

F. (continued)

2. For an Advanced Studies Diploma:

- a) Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time during the ninth grade or at the beginning of the tenth grade shall earn credit as prescribed in 8 VAC 20-131-50;
  - b) Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time during the tenth grade or at the beginning of the eleventh grade shall earn a minimum of six verified units of credit: two in English and one each in mathematics, history, and science and one of the student's choosing; and
  - c) Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time during the eleventh grade or at the beginning of the twelfth grade shall earn a minimum of four verified units of credit: one in English and three of the student's choosing.
- G. Students entering a Virginia high school for the first time after the first semester of their eleventh grade year must meet the requirements of subdivision F.1.c or F.2.c. of this section. Students transferring after 20 instructional hours per course of their senior or twelfth grade year shall be given every opportunity to earn a Standard, Advanced Studies, or Modified Standard Diploma. If it is not possible for the student to meet the requirements for a diploma, arrangements should be made for the student's previous school to award the diploma. If these arrangements cannot be made, a waiver of the verified unit of credit requirements may be available to the student. The Department of Education may grant such waivers upon request by the local school board in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Board.
- H. The transcript of a student who graduates or transfers from a Virginia secondary school shall conform to the requirements of 8 VAC 20-160-10 et seq., Regulations Governing Secondary School Transcripts.
- I. The accreditation status of a high school shall not be included on the student transcript provided to colleges, universities, or employers. The Board expressly states that any student who has met the graduation requirements established in 8 VAC 20-131-50 and has received a Virginia diploma holds a diploma that should be recognized as equal to any other Virginia diploma of the same type, regardless of the accreditation status of the student's high school.

Approved by School Board: June 9, 1986  
Amended by Superintendent: June 12, 1995  
Amended by School Board: March 12, 2001  
Amended by School Board: July 14, 2003