

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Purpose:

High School graduation represents growth in academic, social, physical, and occupational skills. Each student is unique, each student has a unique set of needs and ability – therefore, we can expect that the experience provided in the amount of growth provided will vary widely among students. Although there are many differences among students, and graduation from High School will not represent exactly the same growth for every student, the expectation of the North Platte Board of Education is that every student will meet the following minimum requirements to receive a diploma from North Platte High School:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Core Units Required</u>	<u>Equivalent Credit Hours</u>
Mathematics	3.0	30
Science	3.0	30
Language Arts (English)	4.5	45
Social Studies	4.0	40
Physical Education	2.0	20
Computer Applications	.5	5
Fine Arts, Industrial Education or Vocational Education	<u>1.5</u>	<u>15</u>
Total Core Units Required	18.5	185
Elective Units	<u>6.0</u>	<u>60</u>
Total Units Required for Graduation	24.5	245

Relevant To:

All students who receive a diploma from North Platte High School

Responsible Officer:

Superintendent of Schools

Modification History:

There is no current governing Board policy on file that addresses the issue of graduation requirements. There are, however, rules and regulations #5123(a) (b) (c) and (d) that were adopted on April 25, 1988 relative to graduation requirements. These rules and regulations were revised and approved on September 23, 1996. This document is a revision of the aforementioned rules and regulations and is intended to incorporate both policy and rules and regulations into one policy document.

Principles:

1. High School is considered a four-year course of study. Therefore, graduation requirements will be based upon units (credits) earned in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

2. Students are expected to enroll in courses at North Platte High School as full-time student.
 - 2.1. A full-time student is one who is in attendance, and is assigned to courses or activities for the entire school day from the time that classes begin until classes end for the day.
3. Students are advised and encouraged to enrich and enhance their high school experience by enrolling in classes in excess of the 24.5 units of credit (245 credit hours) required for graduation.
4. The administration will establish and update specific courses of study to meet the graduation requirements outlined in this policy.
5. Students are expected to enroll in courses at North Platte High School as full-time students, unless exceptions are approved by the High School Principal and the Personnel Subcommittee of the Board of Education. The administration will develop appropriate administrative guidelines for granting students exceptions to deviate from the course requirements that have been designated in the District's graduation requirements policy.
6. A student will become a candidate to receive a diploma from North Platte High School only after the student has completed 24.5 units of credit (245 credit hours) required for graduation, has been enrolled as a full-time student as defined in this policy for four school years, and has met the District's proficiency requirements in selected core subjects.
7. Any student who wishes to graduate from North Platte High School prior to the end of their senior year must submit an application for early graduation by the end of the first term of their senior year in accordance with the procedures outlined in the student handbook, and the application may be granted after consideration by the building principal and the Committee on General Operations which approval will be granted only upon showing of exceptional circumstances.
8. Credit hours earned shall be conferred on the basis of the Carnegie Unit (15 clock hours of instruction) 900 minutes (equals one credit hour).
9. This policy will be applicable beginning with the Class of 08-09.

Legal Reference:

Nebraska Statute 79-211, 79-526
Rule 10 of the Nebraska Department of Education

Policy Introduced: 12 December 2005

Policy Approved by the Board of Education: 9 January 2006