

INSTRUCTION

McCall-Donnelly High School Graduation Requirements

Prior to registering for high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

****For the alternative school high school graduation requirements, please reference Policy Procedure 2700-P(2).****

Credits

Students shall be expected to earn a total of 54 semester credits in order to complete graduation requirements. Special education students who have successfully completed their IEP leading to completion of high school will be awarded a diploma.

The core of instruction is 42 semester credits:

Secondary Language Arts and Communication 10 credits

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| English (language study, composition, literature) | 8 credits |
| Speech or Debate | 1 credit |
| Reading | 1 credit |

Mathematics 8 credits*

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| Algebra I (or meets Algebra 1 standards) | 2 credits |
| Geometry (or meets Geometry standards) | 2 credits |
| Secondary Mathematics (student's choice) | 4 credits |

*Physics, Accounting, and Computer Science courses may be counted as mathematics.

Science 6 credits

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| Physical Science | 2 credits |
| Biology | 2 credits |
| Secondary Science (student's choice) | 2 credits |

Social Studies 9 credits

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| World History | 2 credits |
| US History I | 2 credits |
| US History II | 2 credits |
| Government | 2 credits |
| Economics & Financial Literacy | 1 credit |

Arts and Humanities 2 credits

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| Interdisciplinary, Visual & Performing Arts, or Foreign Language | 1 credit |
| Humanities | 1 credit |
| Health/Wellness | 1 credit |
| Physical Education | 2 credits |
| 9 th Grade PE | 1 credit |
| PE Elective | 1 credit |
| Professional Technical/Humanities Area | 2 credits |
| Computer Education Digital Literacy | 1 credit |
| Senior Project Future Readiness Project | 1 credit |
| Electives | 12 credits* |

*Student Aide credits are classified as elective credits. A student may not receive more than four aide credits that are pass/fail. A student may apply for up to four aide credit for graduation. Students may only have one aide position per semester. Freshmen are not eligible for aide positions.

Middle School Credit

If a middle school student completes any required high school course with a grade of C or higher before entering the 9th grade, and if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school and the course is taught by a teacher certified to teach high school content, then the student has met the high school content area requirement for such course. The student shall be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and such grade and the number of credit hours assigned to the course shall be transferred to the student's high school transcript. The student's parent or guardian shall be notified in advance when credits are going to be transcribed. However, the student's parent or guardian may elect to not have the credits and grade transferred to the student's high school transcript by communicating to MDHS by the end of the first semester of freshman year. The student still must complete the required number of credits in all high school core subjects identified above in addition to the courses completed in middle school.

Senior Project Future Readiness Project

~~Senior Project is a graduation requirement that gives seniors an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and the maturity they have achieved during their high school career. Seniors choose an area of study, combine different disciplines, satisfy their curiosity, and utilize their talents in a productive manner. The project allows them to further enhance their high school experience.~~ There are four parts to the ~~Senior~~ Readiness Project: the project itself, an extensive research essay, a portfolio of the student's work, and a 30-minute presentation to the community demonstrating the student's project and learning. ~~Seniors also connect the~~

~~project to their community in a meaningful way.~~

Testing Requirements

In addition to obtaining the necessary credits as outlined above, all students shall meet the State of Idaho testing requirements as outlined by the State Department of Education.

Waiver of Requirement

Graduation requirements generally will not be waived except as outlined in the Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule portion of this policy. However, in rare and unique hardship circumstances, the principal may recommend, and the Superintendent may approve, minor deviation from the graduation requirements.

Alternative Programs

Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, college and university courses, correspondence courses, online/virtual courses, extended learning opportunities, and mastery-based education.

Credit for work experience may be offered when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

All classes attempted at McCall-Donnelly High School and all acceptable transfer credits shall be recorded on the transcript. All grades earned, including failures and retakes, shall be recorded as such and utilized in the calculation of Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank. Credit shall be awarded only once regardless of repetition of the course.

Honor Roll

A student must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 to be placed on the honor roll. Specific information regarding honors at graduation is included in the student handbook.

Class Rank (GPA)

Please see Policy 2422.

Early Completion of Graduation Requirements

Students may elect to graduate prior to the end of their senior year. In order to qualify for early graduation, a student must meet all district graduation requirements. To be eligible for early graduation, a student must:

- Complete the early district application at the end of the 3rd week of the completing semester.
- Arrange a conference with the principal or counselor. A parent/guardian must be present at the conference.
- A letter supporting the student's request is required by the student or parent/legal guardian, if the student is not yet 18 years of age.

Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule

A student may, at the student's option and upon notification to the student's school, be relieved from completing their remaining high school graduation requirements and apply for a flexible schedule or graduate early if the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;
2. Maintains a cumulative 3.5 grade point average;
3. Obtains permission from a parent/guardian, if under the age of 18;
4. Achieves a college and career readiness score;
5. Files the following with the school:
 - A. Notification of their intent to take a flexible schedule OR graduate early;
 - B. The student's participation portfolio; and
 - C. An essay of at least one page explaining why the student wishes to have a flexible schedule which must include the future plans using the flexible schedule OR early graduation;
6. Completes the following:
 - A. The required civics test;
 - B. The economics credit, government credits, and ~~senior project~~ Future Readiness Project required to graduate. A student's ~~senior project~~ Future Readiness Project may describe the student's experience in achieving a college and career readiness score and a detailed explanation of the student's future plan.

Students eligible for a flexible schedule may be relieved from high school graduation requirements in order to:

1. Take elective courses, career technical education programs, or courses selected by the student which are available within the District;
2. Participate in apprenticeships or internships;
3. Act as a tutor at any grade level; or
4. Engage in such other activities identified by the Board.

A student who is granted a flexible schedule must adhere to the plan submitted to the school as a part of their eligibility. Students who are under 18 may modify their plan with the approval of the student's parent/guardian.

The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation or flexible schedule as well create incentives for participation in any early graduation program. Students who opt for a flexible schedule may apply for Advanced Opportunities funding. Existing programs providing incentives to complete coursework early

are described in Policy 2435 Advanced Opportunities.

Legal References

IC § 33-1614

IC § 33-4601

IC § 33-6101 et seq.

IDAPA 08.02.01.250.02

IDAPA 08.02.01.350

IDAPA 08.02.03.105

Description

Financial Literacy

Advanced Opportunities - Definitions

Opportunities for College and Career Ready Students

Required Attendance

Early Graduation

High School Graduation Requirements

Cross References

Code

2435

2435-F(1)

2440

2460

2610

2640

2705

2710

Description

[Advanced Opportunities](#)

[Advanced Opportunities - Participation Form](#)

[Online Courses and Alternative Credit Options](#)

[Extended Learning Opportunities](#)

[Advancement Requirements \(9 through 12\)](#)

[Mastery-Based Education](#)

[Military Compact Waiver](#)

[High School Graduation Requirements—Specialty Diplomas](#)

Policy History:

Adopted: March 2024

Revised: