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**Basic Training High School Course Credit, Policy and Rule**

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**The Background:**

In February 2014, the state legislature enacted a new law, Public Chapter 487 that states:

If, during high school, a student enlists in a branch of the United States military or in the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard split training option or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduation from high school, then the student shall receive high school credit towards graduation for basic training. Credit for basic training may be substituted, upon the choice of the student, for the required credit in lifetime wellness and credit in one (1) elective course or for credit in two (2) elective courses.

This act took effect on Feb 13, 2014. This item would revise graduation requirements in SBE Rule 0520-01-03-.06 and SBE Policy 3.205 to reflect this new course substitution.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.

## **Proposed Changes to Board Policy 3.205, Approved High School Courses**

### **5. Health, Physical Education, and Wellness**

- 5.1. Physical Education
- 5.2. Health Education
- 5.3. Wellness\*

- \* If, during high school, a student enlists in a branch of the United States military or in the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard split training option or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduation from high school, then the student shall receive high school credit towards graduation for basic training. Credit for basic training may be substituted, upon the choice of the student, for the required credit in lifetime wellness and credit in one (1) elective course or for credit in two (2) elective courses.

**SBE Rule 0520-01-03 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**0520-01-03-.06 GRADUATION, REQUIREMENT E.**

(b) High School Diploma.

1. The following twenty-two (22) units shall be required for graduation for students who enter the ninth (9th) grade in 2009-10 and thereafter.

Ready Core Curriculum Units

English Language Arts .....	4
Mathematics* .....	4
Science** .....	3
Social Studies*** .....	3
Wellness**** .....	1
Physical Education .....	.0.5
Personal Finance .....	0.5
Foreign Language***** .....	2
Fine Arts***** .....	1
Electives Focus .....	3
Total .....	22

\* Students who enter ninth (9th) grade in 2009-10 and thereafter shall be required to achieve, by the time they graduate, at least the following: Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (or the equivalents) plus one (1) additional mathematics course beyond Algebra I. All students will be enrolled in a math class each year. Students with qualifying disabilities in math as documented in the individualized education program shall be required to achieve at least Algebra I and Geometry (or the equivalent).

The required number of credits in math will be achieved through strategies such as, but not limited to, increased time, appropriate methodologies, and accommodations as determined by the IEP team.

\*\* Students who enter ninth (9th) grade in 2009-10 and thereafter shall be required to achieve, by the time they graduate, at least Biology I and either Chemistry or Physics plus another laboratory science. Students with qualifying disabilities in reading and/or math as documented in the individualized education program shall be required to achieve at least Biology I and two (2) other lab science credits. The required number of credits in science will be achieved through strategies such as, but not limited to, increased time, appropriate methodologies, and accommodations as determined by the IEP team.

\*\*\* The social studies curriculum shall include United States History, World History/World Geography, Economics, and Government.

\*\*\*\* If, during high school, a student enlists in a branch of the United States military or in the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard split training option or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduation from high school, then the student shall receive high school credit towards graduation for basic training. Credit for basic training may be substituted, upon the choice of the student, for the required credit in lifetime wellness and credit in one (1) elective course or for credit in two (2) elective courses.

\*\*\*\*\* In exceptional circumstances, schools may waive the foreign language and fine art requirement for students who are not planning to attend the university to expand and enhance their elective focus.