

## Wyoming Department of Education

### Chapter 31

#### Wyoming Graduation Requirements

Section 1. **Authority.** These rules and regulations are promulgated under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iv).

Section 2. **Applicability.** These rules and regulations pertain to the requirements for graduation from any public high school within any school district of this state. It is the intention of the state board of education to prescribe uniform student content and performance standards for the common core of knowledge and the common core of skills specified under W.S. 21-9-101(b) and to establish requirements for earning a high school diploma with which public schools (K-12) must comply.

Section 3. **Definitions.**

(a) Common Core of Knowledge. Areas of knowledge each student is expected to acquire at levels established by the state board of education.

(b) Common Core of Skills. Skills each student is expected to demonstrate at levels established by the state board of education. These skills may be integrated into the uniform student content and performance standards for the Common Core of Knowledge.

(c) School Years of English/Mathematics/Science/and Social Studies. With reference to Chapter 31, “school years” is defined as the credit earned during a school year which is synonymous with a Carnegie Unit of study that reflects the instructional time provided in a class calculated by multiplying the number of minutes a district uses for a class by the number of pupil-teacher contact days in the district calendar as approved by the state board of education.

Section 4. **High School Diploma.**

(a) Requirements for earning a high school diploma from any high school within any school district of this state shall include: The successful completion of the following components in grades nine (9) through twelve (12), as evidenced by passing grades or by the successful performance on competency-based equivalency examinations:

- (i) Four (4) school years of English;
- (ii) Three (3) school years of mathematics;
- (iii) Three (3) school years of science; and

(iv) Three (3) school years of social studies, including history, American government and economic systems and institutions. Business instructors may instruct classes on economic systems and institutions.

(b) Satisfactorily passing an examination on the principles of the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Wyoming.

#### **Section 5. District Assessment System.**

(a) Public school students shall be assessed in the uniform student content and performance standards at the level set by the state board of education in the following areas of knowledge and skills, emphasizing reading, writing and mathematics in grades one (1) through eight (8).

(b) The assessment system shall be designed to best meet the needs of individual Wyoming school districts for demonstrating whether or not students have mastered the common core of knowledge and skills as reflected in the uniform student content and performance standards as specified in Chapter 10 of the Wyoming Department of Education rules. The assessment system described in this section shall be designed for grades one (1) through twelve (12) and be aligned with the uniform state standards, both in terms of content and cognitive complexity.

(c) Districts shall provide students with disabilities accommodations in accordance with their individualized educational programs or 504 plans. These accommodations shall not substantially alter the character of the assessments used to measure student performance.