

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

Statement of Purpose

This policy details the options that exist within the Sanborn Regional School District regarding the attainment of high school diplomas and is available for the class of 2014 unless otherwise noted.

Statement of Policy

While it is the goal of the Sanborn Regional School District that every student achieve a high school diploma, the Board recognizes that students should have varied opportunities to meet the requirements of the high school diploma. Therefore, it is the policy of the Sanborn Regional School District that a student may earn a high school diploma under one of the four following categories:

1. College and Career Diploma

This standard high school diploma is awarded to any student who earns 28 credits and completes all required course work, as defined in the “Sanborn Regional High School Program of Studies”, including all state-required courses and credits.

2. College and Career Diploma with Distinction

This diploma is awarded to any student who earns 32 credits, completes all required course work as defined in the “Sanborn Regional High School Program of Studies” under the College and Career Diploma with Distinction description, and receives at least one of the following distinctions:

- a. Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude Titles
 - Awarded to students earning a cumulative non-weighted GPA as described in the “Sanborn Regional High School Program of Studies”
- b. New Hampshire Scholars Award Recipient
 - Awarded to students who meet the criteria of this New Hampshire State Program
- c. Career Pathways Achievement Award Recipient (Class of 2017)
 - Awarded to students within the Sanborn Regional High School Career Pathways Programs.

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SRSD File: IKF

3. State of New Hampshire Minimum Standards Diploma

This diploma is based on the State of New Hampshire minimum requirements for a high school diploma. Students must earn at least 20 credits as defined by the New Hampshire Department of Education “Minimum Standards Diploma”. The approval of the High School Principal and the Superintendent is required to be considered for this diploma. A contract will be signed by all parties involved.

The following conditions will apply to students approved for the State of New Hampshire Minimum Standards Diploma option:

- a. The 20 credit diploma option may be chosen no earlier than July 1 prior to the student’s senior year and no later than February 1 of the student’s senior year.
- b. Students who earn a 20 credit State of New Hampshire Minimum Standards Diploma may walk with their graduating class.
- c. A student transferring to Sanborn Regional as a 12th grader may be eligible for a 20 credit State of New Hampshire Minimum Standards Diploma if the following conditions were met:
 - The student was on schedule to be a senior at his/her previous school.
 - The student was made aware of their right to stay at Sanborn Regional High School and receive a 28 credit College and Career Diploma.
- d. A student who fails to earn the 28 credits needed to receive a College and Career Diploma and who did not apply for a 20 credit State of New Hampshire Minimum Standards Diploma before February 1 of their senior year, may be considered for the diploma by applying after July 1 following his/her scheduled graduation date (IKF-E).

4. Certificate of Achievement

The following conditions will apply to students earning a Certificate of Achievement:

- a. Recommended by Sanborn Regional High School’s Special Education Evaluation and Placement Team.
- b. Approval granted by the High School Principal and Superintendent or designee.
- c. Student and family understanding that a Certificate of Achievement shall not be equal to a regular high school diploma per the New Hampshire Department of Education.

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SRSD File: IKF

- d. The student is identified with an educational disability as documented in an Individualized Educational Program (IEP).
- e. The student has spent at least four years in full-time programming at a high school, grades 9 through 12.
- f. The student has spent a majority of their high school programming in non-credit granting courses and, therefore, unable to attain sufficient credits for a standard diploma.

The Special Education Evaluation and Placement Team determines the student has met the criteria for a Certificate of Achievement as outlined in the Individualized Educational Program (IEP). Award of this certificate is on or before the student's twenty-first (21st) birthday. The student may choose when to receive the Certificate of Achievement at one of three times:

- At graduation with common age peers
- At the conclusion of the IEP program, or,
- Upon reaching age twenty-one (21).

If the student participates in the traditional graduation ceremony, the student will be included in the graduation program.

The granting of a Certificate of Achievement and/or participation in commencement activities does not negate the student's rights to services until age twenty-one (21) as prescribed in the Individualized Education Program (IEP), including postgraduate training at the Sanborn Regional High School.

Related Policy: IKF-E
Effective: December 18, 1996
Revised: October 2, 2013