

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Successful completion of 24 credits (Carnegie units – 15.5 specific; 8.5 elective) are required for graduation from the Elkhorn Area High School. Additional credits may be taken beyond the minimum 24 required for graduation. Four years of high school enrollment is required unless a student has successfully completed the credits listed below and has been approved to graduate early.

Specific Graduation Requirements

1. Four (4) credits of English: a minimum of one credit of English each school year until the four credits of English have been satisfied.
2. Three (3) credits of Social Studies: one (1) credit of World Culture, one (1) credit of US History, one-half (1/2) credit of Government, and one-half (1/2) credit of Economics.
3. Three (3) credits of Mathematics. *Some PLTW classes may count as an elective math credit.*
4. Three (3) credits of Science: (1) life, (1) physical, and (1) elective. *Some PLTW and Agricultural Science classes may count as an elective credit.*
5. One and one-half (1.5) credits of Physical Education*
6. One-half (.5) of a credit in Health: students must take Health as freshmen.
7. One-half (.5) of a credit Personal Financial Literacy.
8. Eight and one-half (8.5) elective credits: credits from courses not used to satisfy any of the above required credits.

Civics Test

In order to be eligible for a District high school diploma, a student must have taken and successfully completed the state-required civics test while enrolled in the high school grades in the District or, as determined by the administration, in another qualifying school or program. Students will be allowed to retake the test an unlimited number of times in order to achieve a passing score. A student with a disability for whom an individualized education program (IEP) is in effect must also take the civics test, however, his/her graduation shall not be conditioned on the successful completion of the test. A limited-English proficient student will be permitted to take the civics test in the student's language of choice.

*Students may waive one-half (.5) credit of the required one and one-half (1.5) physical education credits if they complete an additional one-half (.5) credit in English, social studies, mathematics, or science and they participate in a school-sponsored sport for an entire season during grades 9-11 or the fall and winter season of grade 12. The additional one-half credit (.5) must be above the minimum required number of credits for a particular subject area.

Enrollment Requirement

Students must be enrolled in a minimum of five classes each trimester unless approved by the principal or designee.

Alternative High School & Options Virtual Charter School Diploma Options

The Alternative High School and Options Virtual Charter School are alternative learning opportunities provided for the students of the Elkhorn Area School District.

Students who demonstrate proficiency in the designated outcomes and who maintain a consistent attendance and work ethic may earn an Elkhorn Area Alternative High School diploma. This diploma is on an outcome-based rather than credit-based criteria and therefore a student may not graduate from the alternative school ahead of his/her chronological class.

Students of the Alternative High School or Options Virtual Charter School may also earn an Elkhorn Area High School diploma by meeting the established credit requirements listed above (total of 24 credits).

Students of the Alternative High School or Options Virtual Charter School who are 18, or current seniors, may earn an alternative Adult Elkhorn Area High School diploma by meeting the established credit requirements (17 credits) listed below:

Four (4) credits of English
Three (3) credits of Math
Three (3) credits of Science
Three (3) credits of Social Studies
One and one-half (1.5) credits of Physical Education
One-half (.5) credit of Health
Two (2) credits of an elective
Successful completion of the state required civics test

Students of the Alternative High School may participate in the Senior Skills (GED Option 2) program and earn an Elkhorn Area Alternative High School Diploma. The Senior Skills program is a graduation pathway for seniors. Students fulfill requirements to graduation that include passing content level tests, participating in classroom activities, completing requirements for work experience, Civics (successful passing of state Civics exam), Financial Literacy, a senior portfolio, and community service, attending at a 90% or better level, and successfully passing a Gateway Technical College course.

Students of the Alternative High School may also participate in the Competency Program and earn an Elkhorn Alternative High School Competency Diploma. The Competency Program is a graduation pathway for students beginning in their junior year. Students complete core requirements in Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and English Language Arts at the 11th and 12th grade levels of achievement. Students must achieve competencies at an achievement level of 75% or greater to earn competency in each core area. Students participate in this program for four semesters. Additionally, students are required to pass the state Civics exam.

Graduating students from the Alternative High School may choose to participate in either the Elkhorn Area High School Commencement ceremony and/or the Alternative High School ceremony. Options Virtual Charter School students may participate in the Elkhorn Area High School Commencement ceremony and/or the Options Virtual Charter School Commencement Ceremony. However, students at the Alternative High School and the Options Virtual Charter School are not eligible for Elkhorn Area High School awards and recognitions. Their awards and recognitions will be determined at their respective schools.

The high school principal, or designee, is responsible for determining all credits that apply toward graduation.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Sections: 118.33 Wisconsin Statutes 121.02(1)

CROSS REFERENCE: PI 18 Wisconsin Administrative Code
345.6 Rule, Specific Graduation Requirements
345.61 Early Graduation
345.62 Commencement Exercises

Adopted: 12/14/1989
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4/24/1992
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