

**WINSLOW PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
25 MESSALONSKEE AVENUE  
WATERVILLE, ME 04901**

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Before entering high school, students need to know the standards for attaining a high school diploma in order to plan an appropriate, sequential, educational program to meet that goal.

The Superintendent, through the high school principal or other designee, shall be responsible for making accurate information concerning diploma requirements available to incoming students and their parents prior to the start of their ninth grade school year. A copy of this policy will be disseminated to all incoming ninth grade students at the time of course selection. This policy will also be included in every edition of the high school student handbook.

The Board has approved this schedule of minimum requirements for graduation.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Diplomas will be awarded only to students who have met the content standards of all content areas of the system of Learning Results/Common Core. These content areas are: English/language arts, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, health and physical education, career preparation, modern and classical languages, and visual and performing arts.

In addition to the content standards described above, the student must meet the following requirements.

A. For the class of 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016, the student must successfully complete a total of 22 credits, including the 15 ½ (fifteen and one-half) credits specified below:

1. English/language arts – 4 credits;
2. Mathematics – 3 credits;
3. Social studies and history, including one year of Geography, one year of Western Civilization, and one American history and government – 3 credits;
4. Science, including at least one year of laboratory study – 2 ½ years;
5. Fine arts, which may include art, music, forensics, or drama – 1 credit;
6. Health – 1/2 credit; and
7. Physical education – 1 credit.
8. Career Prep – ½ credit
9. Computer proficiency

• Starting with the class of 2017 and all classes thereafter, the student must complete a total of 22 credits, including the 16 credits specified below:

1. English/language arts – 4 credits;
2. Mathematics – 3 credits;
3. Social studies and history, including one year of Geography, one year of Western Civilization, and one American history and government – 3 credits;
4. Science, including at least one year of laboratory study – 3 credits;
5. Fine arts, which may include art, music, forensics, or drama – 1 credit;

6. Health – 1/2 credit; and
7. Physical education – 1 credit.
8. Career Prep – ½ credit
9. Computer proficiency

- B. The student must demonstrate computer skills according to the school unit's standards for computer literacy, proficiency, and performance.
- C. The remaining credits may be selected by the student based upon the student's interests, abilities, and the requirements of the field that the student plans to enter upon graduation.

**ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS**

- A. Transfer Students: For students who transfer to Winslow High School from another state or from an educational program that is not required to meet the content standards of the system of Learning Results/Common Core, the Winslow High School principal shall determine the value of the student's prior educational experience towards achieving the standards in a manner consistent with the School Board's policies.
- B. Students Receiving Special Education Services: Students, who successfully meet the content standards of the Learning Results/Common Core, as specified in the goals and objectives of their Individualized Education Plans Common Core (IEP), will be awarded diplomas.
- C. Early Awarding of Diplomas: A student who has completed an Early Graduation Plan, created in collaboration with the student's Counselor and Principal, and who has met the Board's diploma requirements in fewer than four (4) years of high school, may be awarded a diploma.
- D. Certificate of Attendance: The Board may provide a student who leaves school without meeting the standards of the Learning Results/Common Core with a Certificate of Attendance.
- E. Extended Study: Students are eligible for extended years of study to complete the requirements of a diploma if they have not reached the age of 20 by July 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the start of the school year. Students eligible for extended years of study may be referred to adult education or other resources suitable to young learners. Extended study for students with disabilities shall be specified in the student's Individualized Education Plan.
- F. Participation in Graduation Ceremony: A student must complete all requirements for a high school diploma in order to participate in graduation exercises, unless an exception is made by the administration.

**ADOPTED:** May 21, 2003; **REVISED:** May 23, 2011; **REVISED:** January 28, 2013  
**REVISED:** 4/22/13

**SOURCE:** Board Policy