



To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Indiana Career Council Pathways Taskforce

Date: August 19, 2015

Re: Proposed Indiana Diploma Requirements

In accordance with IC 20-19-6-9, the Indiana Career Council Core 40 Subcommittee has reviewed the current Core 40 diploma types of diplomas offered and has developed recommendations on new diploma requirements.

The proposed requirements for Indiana's "College & Career Ready" and "Workforce Ready" diplomas were presented to the Indiana Career Council Pathways Taskforce today.

After a discussion led by Superintendent Glenda Ritz and Commissioner of Higher Education Teresa Lubbers, the taskforce has had its questions about the proposed recommendations answered. The taskforce understands and supports the proposed changes to the Indiana Core 40 diploma requirements.

Furthermore, the taskforce commits to working with and supporting students, parents, educators, and employers across Indiana to ensure that the proposed requirements are understood by all and can be implemented well across the state of Indiana.



Indiana's  
**College & Career Ready\***  
High School Diploma

**FINAL DRAFT 8/13/15** (as approved by  
Indiana Commission for Higher Education)

Takes effect beginning with students who enter  
high school in 2018-2019 (class of 2022).

**Minimum 44 Total Credits**

<b>English/ Language Arts</b>	<b>8 credits</b>		
	Including literature, composition, speech/communications <b>or</b> other state-approved alternative		
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>8 credits</b> (All Indiana students must be enrolled in a math course or state-approved alternative during each year of high school.)		
	<b>Calculus Sequence</b>	<b>Quantitative Reasoning Sequence</b>	<b>Technical Math Sequence</b>
	2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II 2 credits: Pre-Calculus <b>and</b> Trigonometry	2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II 2 credits: Quantitative Reasoning <b>or</b> Probability & Statistics	2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Algebra II, Geometry <b>or</b> Math 10 (with teacher approval) 4 credits: Technical Math <b>or</b> state-approved alternative
	[NOTE: College-bound students who plan to attend (or transfer to) a four-year college should complete either the Calculus or Quantitative Reasoning course sequence, depending on their postsecondary program of study. Integrated Math I, II and III may be completed as an alternative to Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II.]		
<b>Science</b>	<b>6 credits</b>		
	2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry I, Physics I <b>or</b> Integrated Chemistry-Physics 2 credits: Any science course <b>or</b> state-approved alternative		
	[NOTE: Students in a <b>STEM Pathway**</b> should complete <b>8 science credits, including a laboratory component.</b> ]		
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>6 credits</b>		
	2 credits: U.S. History 2 credits: World History/Civilization <b>or</b> Geography/History of the World 1 credit: U.S. Government 1 credit: Economics, Consumer Economics <b>or</b> Global Economics		
	<b>3 credits</b>		
	2 credits: Physical Education 1 credit: Health & Wellness		
<b>College &amp; Career Readiness</b>	<b>8 credits</b>		
	1 credit: Preparing for College & Careers (Should be completed by the end of 9th grade.) 1 credit: Personal Financial Responsibility 6 credits: College & Career Readiness Sequence (with graduation capstone***)		
	[NOTE: <b>College &amp; Career Readiness Sequences</b> may include <b>Academic</b> courses, <b>Career &amp; Technical Education</b> courses, <b>Early College</b> credits, <b>Fine Arts</b> courses, <b>Advanced Coursework</b> or other coursework aligned with a student's College & Career Pathway Plan. Students may earn 6 credits in a single sequence or 8 credits in two sequences.]		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College-bound students who plan to pursue a <b>One-Year Certificate</b> or <b>non-transferrable Two-Year College Degree</b> should complete a College &amp; Career Readiness Sequence that includes Career &amp; Technical Education and/or Dual Credit courses.</li> <li>College-bound students who plan to pursue a <b>Four-Year College Degree</b> or <b>transferrable Two-Year College Degree</b> should complete a College &amp; Career Readiness Sequence that includes Advanced Placement, Career &amp; Technical Education, and/or priority Dual Credit courses listed in Indiana's Core Transfer Library.]</li> </ul>		
<b>Directed Electives</b>	<b>5 credits</b>		
	Fine Arts World Languages (College-bound students should complete <b>at least 4 credits</b> in the <b>same World Language</b> .) Additional Academic <b>and/or</b> Career & Technical Education courses		

**College & Career Ready Diploma with Honors**

**College & Career Ready Diploma with Honors** graduates must complete a **minimum of 48 credits**, earn a cumulative **Grade Point Average of at least 3.0** on a 4-point scale, earn a **grade of "C" or better in all courses that count toward the diploma** and **complete at least two** of the following:

- Advanced Coursework:** Earn at least 4 Advanced Placement **or** International Baccalaureate credits and take corresponding exams
- Arts & Culture:** Complete at least 6 World Language credits **and** 2 Fine Arts credits
- Career Credential:** Complete an Industry-Recognized Certification, One-Year Certificate **or** state-approved alternative
- College Credit:** Earn at least 6 transcribed college credits
- College Entrance Exam:** Earn a minimum composite ACT **or** total SAT score (established by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education)

\*Indiana's College & Career Ready Diploma is the default diploma track for all Hoosier students. Graduating with less than the default diploma requires formal parental consent and school principal certification.

\*\*Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) \*\*\*Graduation capstone could include a college/career credential, a project- or work-based learning experience, or other state-approved alternative.



Indiana's  
**Workforce Ready\***  
 High School Diploma

**FINAL DRAFT 8/13/15** (as approved by  
 Indiana Commission for Higher Education)

Takes effect beginning with students who enter  
 high school in 2018-2019 (class of 2022).

**Minimum 40 Total Credits**

<b>English/ Language Arts</b>	<b>8 credits</b>
	Including literature, composition, speech/communications or other state-approved alternative
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>6-8 credits</b> (All Indiana students must be enrolled in a math course or state-approved alternative during each year of high school.)
	2 credits: Algebra I
	2 credits: Algebra II, Geometry <b>or</b> Math 10 (with teacher approval based on diagnostic results)
	2-4 credits: Technical Math <b>or</b> state-approved alternative
	[NOTE: Students who must retake a math course in high school may graduate with 6 credits in math courses or a state-approved alternative. Integrated Math I, II and III may be completed as an alternative math sequence to Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II.]
<b>Science</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
	2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Any science course <b>or</b> state-approved alternative
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
	2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government
	1 credit: Any social studies course <b>or</b> state-approved alternative
<b>College &amp; Career Readiness</b>	<b>8 credits</b>
	1 credit: Preparing for College & Careers (Should be completed by the end of 9th grade.)
	1 credit: Personal Financial Responsibility
	6 credits: College & Career Readiness Sequence (with graduation capstone)
	[NOTE: <b>College &amp; Career Readiness Sequences</b> may include <b>Academic</b> courses, <b>Career &amp; Technical Education</b> courses, <b>Early College</b> credits, <b>Fine Arts</b> courses, <b>Advanced Coursework</b> or other coursework aligned with a student's <b>College &amp; Career Pathway Plan</b> . Students may earn 6 credits in a single sequence or 8 credits in two sequences.]
<b>Health &amp; Wellness</b>	<b>3 credits</b>
	2 credits: Physical Education 1 credit: Health & Wellness
<b>Electives</b>	<b>5-7 credits</b>

**Graduation Capstone**

**Workforce Ready Diploma graduates must complete at least one of the following (aligned with their chosen College & Career Pathway Plan):**

- 1) **Career Credential:** Complete an Industry-Recognized Certification, One-Year Certificate **or** state-approved alternative
- 2) **Career Experience:** Complete a project-based capstone **or** work-based learning experience
- 3) **College Credit:** Earn at least 3 transcribed college credits

\*Indiana's College & Career Ready Diploma is the default diploma track for all Hoosier students. Graduating with the Workforce Ready Diploma requires formal parental consent and school principal certification. Unless a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) indicates otherwise, determinations that permit a student to graduate with the Workforce Ready Diploma should be made no earlier than the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade.



## **Resolution to Adopt Indiana’s High School Diploma Requirements**

**August 13, 2015**

*WHEREAS*, the Indiana General Assembly called upon the Indiana Career Council to make recommendations regarding revisions to the state’s high school diploma requirements; and

*WHEREAS*, Indiana’s high school diploma requirements define the knowledge and skills Hoosier graduates need to succeed in college and careers; and

*WHEREAS*, the proposed revisions to Indiana’s high school diploma requirements were developed as part of a coordinated statewide effort, co-chaired by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Commissioner for Higher Education; and

*WHEREAS*, the proposed high school diploma requirements were informed by national best-practice research and invaluable feedback from educators, employers, policymakers, community leaders, and the general public; and

*WHEREAS*, the proposed “*College & Career Ready*” and “*Workforce Ready*” diplomas build upon the strengths of Indiana’s current diplomas to ensure that Hoosier students are prepared to meet the expectations of employers and education beyond high school; and

*WHEREAS*, the proposed “*College & Career Ready*” and “*Workforce Ready*” diplomas would replace the state’s existing Core 40 and General Education diplomas, respectively, beginning with Hoosier students entering high school in 2018 (graduating class of 2022);

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, that

- I. The Indiana Commission for Higher Education approves the proposed requirements for Indiana’s “*College & Career Ready*” and “*Workforce Ready*” high school diplomas;**
- II. The Commission recommends that the Indiana State Board of Education and Indiana General Assembly adopt the proposed diploma requirements; and**
- III. The Commission commits to working with educators and employers across Indiana to ensure that local schools and communities have the capacity and support necessary to meet these expectations for the benefit of all Hoosier students.**