

SUBJECT: GRADUATION OPTIONS /EARLY GRADUATION / ACCELERATED PROGRAMS

In order to graduate from Churchville-Chili Central School District, a student must meet or exceed the requirements set forth in Part 100 of the Commissioner's Regulations. The Board of Education reserves the right to establish requirements for graduation, which exceed the minimum standards as defined by the New York State Regents. The District will award the appropriate diploma, credential, or both to students.

- a) Regents Diploma;
- b) Regents Diploma with Honors;
- c) Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation;
- d) Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors;
- e) Annotation of Science and/or Math Mastery;
- f) Career and Technical Endorsement.
- g) Regents Diploma through Appeal
- h) Local Diploma through Appeal
- i) Local Diploma
- j) CDOS Credential

Pathways to Graduation

Students must pass the required number or Regents examinations or approved alternate exams and meet any further graduation requirements; these requirements may include passing an approved pathways assessment, other assessment, or an additional exam that measures an equivalent level of knowledge and skill. Students who fail certain Regents examinations may appeal the result in accordance with the Commissioner's regulations.

Early Graduation

A student may be eligible for early graduation (fewer than eight semesters) if the student completes all requirements for graduation, excluding physical education. The District will consult with appropriate personnel, the student, and persons in parental relation, and consider factors such as the student's grades, performance in school, future plans, and benefits to early graduation in making its decision. The high school principal/superintendent has authority to give final approval for early graduation.

Accelerated, Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs

Eighth Grade Acceleration for Diploma Credits

Eighth grade students may take appropriate high school courses. The Superintendent or designee will determine whether an eighth grade student is eligible to take high school courses using criteria that examine each student's readiness. By the end of seventh grade, accelerated students must receive instruction designed to facilitate their attainment of the state intermediate learning standards in each subject area in which they are accelerated.

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SUBJECT: GRADUATION OPTIONS /EARLY GRADUATION / ACCELERATED PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

Accelerated, Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs (Cont'd.)

Petition to Participate

A referral into an accelerated program comes from the established program criteria. The parent/guardian of a student who hasn't met the criteria, has an opportunity to petition that his/her child participate in an accelerated program by meeting with the building administrator to request their student to be further evaluated for advanced education placement.

Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement (AP) examinations afford students the opportunity to potentially earn credit or advanced standing in many colleges and universities. The College Board administers a variety of AP Examinations in May of each year. The District will determine a student's readiness for enrollment in any AP classes.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is a challenging college preparatory program designed to educate the whole child. A balanced, interdisciplinary curriculum focuses on an interconnected global society and the development of college and career skills necessary to becoming knowledgeable, caring, and contributing members of a community. Courses are developed using international standards and common assessments. The IB Programme, which begins in the junior year, is for highly motivated students who want to pursue the IB Diploma or earn IB course certificates. The District will utilize a set of criteria to determine a student's readiness for IB course enrollment.

Dual Credit for College Courses

Students may choose to enroll at any one of the colleges that have a cooperative agreement with the District. Students who wish to enroll in college level coursework must meet all academic, grade level, and course work requirements. These opportunities may include early admission to college, collegiate-level work offered in the high school, or other means of providing advanced work. The administration will review and approve any college courses before they are taken during the school day. The District will not be required to pay tuition and other related costs for those high school students enrolled in college courses.

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SUBJECT: GRADUATION OPTIONS /EARLY GRADUATION / ACCELERATED PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

Online Coursework

The District may offer students the ability to complete general education and diploma requirements for a specific subject through district approved online instruction or blended coursework that combines online and classroom-based instruction.

To receive credit for online coursework, students must successfully complete an online or blended course and demonstrate mastery of the learning outcomes for the subject by passing the Regents exam or other assessment in the subject area. The high school principal and/or superintendent have authority to grant approval for online course credit.

Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential

Any student who is not assessed using the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) may earn the CDOS commencement credential as a supplement to a Regents or local diploma, or if the student is unable to meet diploma standards, the credential may be awarded as his or her only exiting credential if the student attended school for at least 12 years, excluding kindergarten.

The student must meet criteria specified by the State Education Department (SED) confirming that he or she attained the standards-based knowledge and skills necessary for entry-level employment.

The student must either:

- 1) Develop a career plan, demonstrate that he or she attained commencement-level CDOS learning standards in the areas of career exploration and development, integrated learning, and universal foundation skills, complete the required Career and Technical Education coursework and work-based learning, and have at least one completed employability profile; or
- 2) Meet the criteria of a nationally recognized work-readiness credential.

Biliteracy

The New York State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages, in addition to English and acknowledges the importance of being bilingual in today's global society. It highlights the hard work and achievement of students, and encourages students to pursue language study while in school. The recognition of attaining Biliteracy becomes part of the high school transcript and diploma for these students and is a statement of accomplishment for future employers and for college admission.

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SUBJECT: GRADUATION OPTIONS /EARLY GRADUATION / ACCELERATED PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

Participation in Graduation Ceremonies and Activities

Any student who satisfactorily completed all graduation requirements will be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony and all related graduation activities of his or her graduation class subject to certain exceptions. Students may be prohibited from participating in the graduation ceremony or related graduation activities as a consequence of violating the District's *Code of Conduct*

The District permits any student to participate in the graduation ceremony and all related graduation activities of his or her high school graduating class, if the student has been awarded a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential or a Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential, but has not otherwise qualified to receive a Regents or local diploma. While permitted to participate, these students are not required to participate in the graduation ceremony or related graduations activities of his or her graduating class. For purposes of this policy, a student's high school graduating class is the twelfth grade class with which he or she entered into ninth grade.

8 NYCRR Sections 100.1(i), 100.2(f), 100.4(d), 100.5, 100.6, and 200.5

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7221 – Early Graduation

Policy #7222 – Diploma and/or Credential Options for Students with Disabilities

Adopted: 7/10/2001

Revised: 1/27/2009, 1/11/2011, 4/22/2014, 8/23/2016, 11/22/2016, 1/10/2017, 3/24/2020