

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

No. 217

Section: Pupils

Title: Graduation
Requirements

Adopted: April 27, 1981

Revised: March 28,
2019

217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to acknowledge each student's successful completion of a School District approved instructional program by an award of a diploma or certificate.

Authority

The Board of Education sets the policy and the Superintendent has the authority to determine the criteria for high school graduation. The high school principal certifies to the Superintendent students' successful completion of the established graduation requirements.

Guidelines

The Board shall award a high school diploma to every student who meets the requirements for graduation.

Such requirements shall include:

1. The successful completion of a minimum of 23.5 credits;
2. The completion of a service learning project; and
3. Any standards set by Commonwealth laws and regulations.

Any standards set by Commonwealth laws and regulations shall be described and outlined in the administrative regulations accompanying this policy.

A certificate of achievement in specially designated official programs of study may be awarded upon the approval of the Superintendent. A student who has completed the requirements for graduation may not be denied a diploma for disciplinary purposes but may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies upon the decision of the principal.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent is authorized to develop procedures for implementing this policy which include a detailed description and outline of all graduation requirements; procedures for the careful recording of each student's progress and accumulation of graduation requirements; procedures and standards for counseling of students to know what is expected of them for completion of their schooling; procedures for issuance of periodic notifications to students in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements; procedures for the preparation and submission to the Board for its approval a list of all candidates for the award of a diploma or certificate; standards for the preparation of suitable diplomas and certificates; and procedures for the planning and execution of graduation ceremonies which fittingly mark this important achievement.

Mandatory Regulatory Guidelines

The District shall post on its publicly accessible Internet website its Graduation requirements.

Legal References:

1. Pa. School Code, 24 P.S. § 1504(c)
2. Pa. School Code, 24 P.S. § 1611
3. Pa. School Code, 24 P.S. § 1613
4. Pa. School Code, 24 P.S. § 510.2
5. Pa. SB 1095