



---

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Consistent with the District philosophy and goals, high school principals will issue a diploma certifying high school graduation to each student who meets the District required course of study. In addition, students must pass 10 credits of coursework that meets or exceeds the academic content standards for Algebra I or Integrated Math 1. Those students who have met all District graduation requirements prior to the Commencement Ceremony qualify to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

Students not passing the Algebra/Integrated Math I requirement, but meeting all other graduation requirements will receive a Certificate of Completion. Those students who have met the requirements for a Certificate of Completion prior to the Commencement Ceremony qualify to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

Students with an Individualized Education Plan who do not meet diploma requirements will qualify for a Certificate of Attendance by meeting the standards specified in his/her Plan. The Plan may include differential standards specifically designed for the student. If differential standards are specified in the Plan, those standards should be attainable by the student, yet represent a reasonable level of proficiency, which will enable the student to become a self-sufficient citizen. Those students who have met the requirements for a Certificate of Attendance prior to the Commencement Ceremony qualify to participate in the Commencement Ceremony.

Since individual students learn and achieve at varying rates, it is understood that students will not all meet graduation standards within the same time frame. The District will provide students with the opportunity to receive a diploma or certificate at the end of each semester of the regular school year and at the end of the summer when a summer session is provided.

If a student is unable to pass a course in Algebra/Integrated Math 1, school personnel will place the student in class(es) or program(s) where remediation will be provided.

The Superintendent and/or designee will be responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring any necessary administrative procedures to implement this policy.

### **COURSE OF STUDY**

The student will, during grades 9 through 12, successfully complete the course and credit requirements listed below.

#### **1. REQUIRED COURSE OF STUDY TO RECEIVE A CUSD DIPLOMA**

Mathematics (Class of 2016 and prior)	20	credits <b>and the pupil must meet or exceed 10 credits of coursework that meets or exceeds the academic content standards for Algebra I or Integrated Math I</b> in any of grades 7 to 12. Regardless of when the Algebra I/Integrated Math I content standards requirement is met, students must earn 20 credits in mathematics during grades 9-12.
Mathematics (Beginning with the Class of 2017)	30	credits <b>and the pupil must meet or exceed 10 credits of coursework that meets or exceeds the academic content standards for Algebra I or Integrated Math I</b> in any of grades 7 to 12. Regardless of when the Algebra I or Integrated Math content standards requirement is met, students must earn 30 credits in mathematics during grades 9-12.

Students may be awarded up to one mathematics course credit for successful completion of an approved computer science course that



is classified as a "category c" course based on the "a-g" course requirements for college admission. (Education Code 51225.3, 51225.35)

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*  
*(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)*  
*(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)*

Students may be awarded up to one mathematics course credit for successful completion of an approved computer science course that is classified as a "category c" course based on the "a-g" course requirements for college admission. (Education Code 51225.3, 51225.35)

*(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)*  
*(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)*

English	40	credits and be continuously enrolled in English classes throughout grades 9, 10, 11 and 12.
Science	10	credits in biological/life science.
	10	credits in physical/earth science.
Health Science	5	credits (may be taken in grades 7-12).
Physical Education	20	credits - 9th grade required in addition to 1 PE course to be completed in any grade 10 through 12 (these units are not required to meet the continuation high school course of study).
History/Social Science	10	credits in world history, culture and geography to be taken during the 10th grade year.
	10	credits including U. S. history and geography to be taken in the 11 <sup>th</sup> grade year.
	5	credits in American Government and civics and
	5	credits in economics to be taken in the 12th grade year.
Fine Arts/Foreign Language/ Career Technical Education	10	credits in Visual or Performing Arts, Foreign Language, including American Sign Language, or Career Technical Education.  To be counted towards meeting graduation requirements, a CTE course shall be aligned to the CTE model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of Education and be classified as a category "c" based on "a-g" course admission criteria.
		<i>(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)</i> <i>(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)</i> <i>(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)</i> <i>(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)</i>
Electives		Adequate number of credits to attain a total of 225 credits for the Class of 2016 and prior or 235 credits beginning with the Class of 2017. A maximum of 20 credits in work experience may be used toward graduation.



For the Class of 2016 and prior	<b>225</b>	Total credits required for diploma <b>plus</b> other course and test requirements stated above.
Beginning with the Class of 2017	<b>235</b>	Total credits required for diploma plus other course and test requirements stated above.

~~The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth, homeless students, and children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.3 and 49701.~~

~~(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)  
 (cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)  
 (cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)~~

**Exemptions and Waivers**

All students are required to complete a course in Algebra I (or its equivalent) prior to receiving a diploma of graduation from high school per Education Code 51224.5. Pursuant to Education Code 56101, school districts must request a waiver of the requirement for the successful completion of Algebra I (or its equivalent) for student with disabilities with an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

A foster youth, homeless student, or former juvenile court school student who transfers into the district any time after completing his/her second year of high school shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code 51225.3 but shall be exempt from any additional district-adopted graduation requirements, unless the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified of the availability of the exemption and whether he/she qualifies for it. (Education Code 51225.1)

~~(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)  
 (cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)  
 (cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)  
 (cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)  
 (cf. 6173.3 - Education for Juvenile Court School Students)~~

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by waiving specific course requirements for graduation if the student has satisfactorily completed similar coursework in another district. (Education Code 49701)

~~(cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)~~

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

~~(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)  
 (cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)~~

**2. REQUIRED COURSE OF STUDY TO RECEIVE A CUSD CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE (COMPLETION)**

- a. Successfully complete requirements as specified by the student's IEP.

**Retroactive Diplomas**

Until July 31, 2018, any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination



## Chico Unified School District

1163 East Seventh Street, Chico, CA 95928-5999  
(530) 891-3000

Board Policy:

#6146.1

Section: 6000

Instruction

Page 4 of 5

---

shall be granted a high school diploma. (Education Code 60851.6)

The district may retroactively grant a high school diploma to a former student who was interned by order of the federal government during World War II or who is an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, provided that he/she was enrolled in a district school immediately preceding the internment or military service and he/she did not receive a diploma because his/her education was interrupted due to the internment or military service. A deceased former student who satisfies these conditions may be granted a retroactive diploma to be received by his/her next of kin. (Education Code 51430)

In addition, the district may grant a diploma to a veteran who entered the military service of the United States while he/she was a district student in grade 12 and who had completed the first half of the work required for grade 12. (Education Code 51440)

### Legal Reference:

#### EDUCATION CODE

47612 Enrollment in charter school

48200 Compulsory attendance

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48645.5 Acceptance of coursework

48980 Required notification at beginning of term

49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life

51224.5 Algebra instruction

51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements

51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course

51225.3 High school graduation

51225.35 Mathematics course requirements; computer science

51225.36 Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51225.6 Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation

51228 Graduation requirements

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents

51410-51412 Diplomas

51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates

51430 Retroactive high school diplomas

51440 Retroactive high school diplomas

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

51745 Independent study restrictions

56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education

60851.5 Suspension of high school exit examination

60851.6 Retroactive diploma; completion of all graduation requirements except high school exit examination

66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria

67386 Student safety; affirmative consent standard

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures

#### COURT DECISIONS

*O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela)*, (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

### Management Resources:

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, High School: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs>

University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:

Policy Adopted: 09/97; 06/01; 08/05; 05/03/07; 09/01/10; 04/18/12; 07/17/13; 03/26/14; 04/06/16



**Chico Unified School District**  
1163 East Seventh Street, Chico, CA 95928-5999  
(530) 891-3000

**Board Policy: #6146.1**

**Section: 6000 Instruction**  
**Page 5 of 5**

---

*<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>*