

New Mexico High School Graduation Options for Students with Disabilities

**Michael Lovato, PED
Director of Special Education**

**Mark Mutz, PED
Deputy Director of Special Education**

State Performance Plan Indicator 1

- Measures the percent of students graduating on all pathways, which forms part of each Local Education Agency's (LEA's) annual determination.
- Target for 2016 is 77.4%, and the target increases every year: 79.3% for 2017 and 81.2% in 2018.
- Our goal: increase the percentage of students graduating from High School in New Mexico.

Graduation Options



1. Standard Option

- Course Requirements
- Assessment requirements

2. Career Readiness Option

- Course Requirements
- Assessment requirements

3. Ability Option

- Course Requirements
- Assessment requirements

FOR ALL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- Graduation plans must be part of a student's IEP by the end of 8th grade or by the time they turn 14.
- IEP teams cannot change from the standard to career, or from career to ability pathways, after the 20th day of the student's final year of HS.
- Credit goals for all pathways are based on Employability and Career Development Standards.

Important Graduation Information in IEP

For All Students with IEPs:

- Documentation of Exceptionalities
- Annual IEP Meeting Documents
- Classroom Accommodations
- Assessment Accommodations
- Coursework and Post-Secondary Plans

Documentation for Graduation

All Students:



- 1) Course credits completed
- 2) Assessment scores and pass/fail status

Standard Graduation Option Requirements

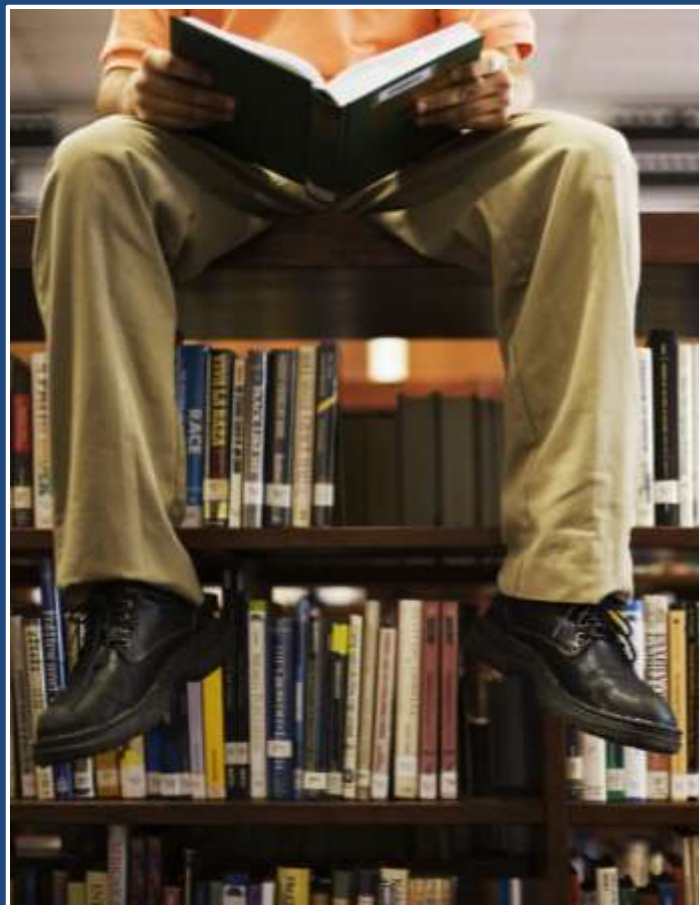
1. Course Requirements
2. Assessment Requirements



Standard Option Course Requirements

- 4 credits ELA
- 4 credits math including Algebra II or equivalent
- 3.5 credits social studies including US History and Geography, World History and Geography, Government and Economics, and 0.5 credit of NM History
- 3 credits science, 2 of which must be lab sciences
- 1 credit physical education
- 1 career cluster course, workplace readiness or non-English language
- 7.5 elective credits
- 1 course of health (starting with 2017 cohort) in HS or MS. This can be 0.5 credit as long as it covers the full set of health standards.

Standard Option Course Requirements



At least one course must be Honors (H), Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Credit (DC), or Distance Learning (DL).

Honors, Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, or Distance Learning

What do these look like for students with disabilities?

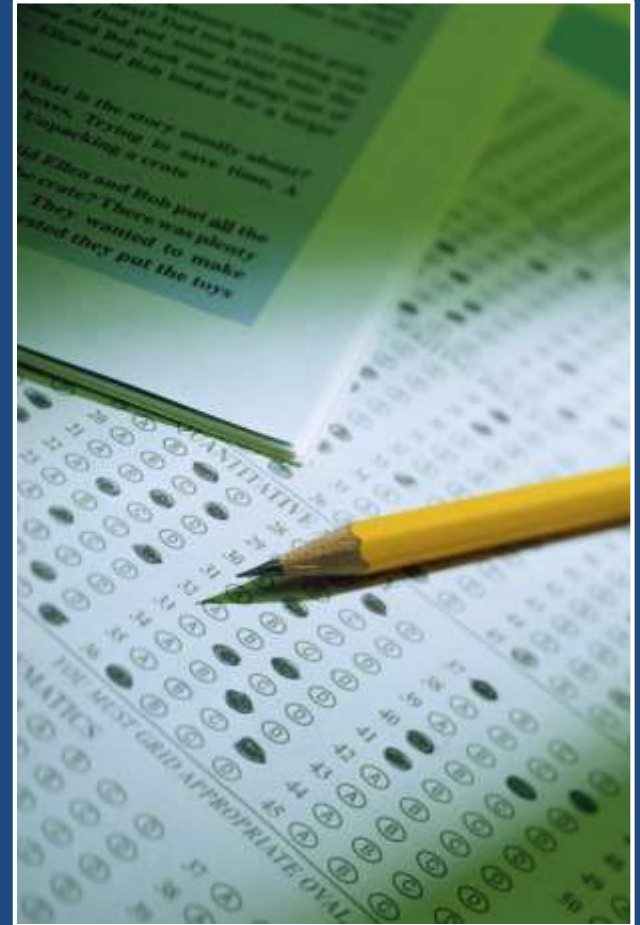
- Honors- students cannot be excluded from these classes based on their disability.
- Advanced Placement- IDEAL NM has options to complete AP courses online
- Dual Credit- options based on agreement between high school and post-secondary institution
- Distance Learning- can be through IDEAL NM
<http://idealnewmexico.org/>

Assessment Requirements

Based on Statute

NMSA 22-13-1.1.

Passed in 1986; updated
several times





NMSA 22-13-1.1.N

Beginning with the 2010–2011 school year, a student shall not receive a New Mexico diploma of excellence if the student has not demonstrated competence in the subject areas of mathematics, reading and language arts, writing, social studies and science, including a section on the constitution of the United States and the constitution of New Mexico, based on a standards-based assessment or assessments or a portfolio of standards-based indicators established by the department by rule.

Senate Bill 122

- Signed by Governor Martinez 2014
 - PE requirement may be met by PE course, marching band, athletic sport, or JROTC
 - SB 122 also states that once a cohort begins their freshman year, their graduation **requirements** cannot be changed.
- Please note that there is a difference between *requirements and options for students to meet those requirements*

Standard Option Assessment Requirements for HS Graduation **2016**

Primary Demonstration of Competency

Reading: Pass Standards-Based Assessment (SBA) Reading in Grade 10 (2014) with 1137 or 2273 composite (reading + math), or pass PARCC English Language Arts (ELA) Grade 11 (2015) with a performance level of 3

Writing: Pass PARCC ELA Grade 11 (2015) with a performance level of 3¹ or pass one writing EoC

Math: Pass SBA Math in Grade 10 (2014) with 1137 or 2273 composite (reading + math), or PARCC Algebra II *OR* Geometry (2015) with a performance level of 3¹

Science: Pass SBA with 1138

Social Studies: Pass one social studies EoC

Standard Option Assessment Requirements for HS Graduation **2016**

Assessment Attempt Requirements

- Students must attempt the following before implementing the Alternate Demonstration of Competency (ADC):
 - **Reading and Math**: State accountability assessment (SBA and/or PARCC) 3 times
 - **Writing**: State accountability assessment (PARCC) 1 time
 - **Science**: State accountability assessment (SBA Science) 2 times before implementing the ADC
 - **Social Studies**: One New Mexico EoC 1 time before implementing the ADC
- If students do not meet the assessment attempt requirements listed above, they may use the Alternate Demonstration of Competency (ADC) with an approved ADC Implementation Application.
- Students on the standard graduation option may retest PARCC to meet requirements listed above. 2016 seniors took the SBA as sophomores in spring 2014, PARCC as juniors in spring 2015, and optional PARCC retests as seniors in fall 2015.

Standard Option Assessment Requirements for HS Graduation **2016**

Alternate Demonstration of Competency

- If students do not pass the primary demonstration of competency for graduation, the ADC includes EoCs, CCR indicators, and local ADCs according to 6.19.7.10 NMAC.

- ACT
- PLAN
- PSAT
- SAT
- Accuplacer
- COMPASS
- IB Program
- AP
- EoC

See *ADC Manual* for options and
CCR cut scores.

Transfer Students (to PED schools)

- Transfers in final year of HS must demonstrate competency in Reading, Writing, and Math only.
- All other transfers are held to same assessment requirements as NM students.
- Students who passed an exit exam in a different state may use passing scores for all passed subjects.

Complete “Graduation Waiver” and submit to PED (also for course waivers).



Documentation for Graduation

Standard Pathway:

- Next Step Plan
- 8th–12th Grades
- Includes:
 - Plan for coursework based on post-graduation plans.
 - 12th grade Final Next Step Plan includes plans for college, trade program, internship, military service, or employment.



Documentation for Graduation



Standard Pathway:

- IEP can replace Next Step Plan for SWD.
- Same requirements:
 - Plan for coursework based on post-graduation plans.
 - 12th grade IEP includes plans for college, trade program, internship, military service, or employment.

Career Readiness Graduation Option Requirements

- 1. Considerations
- 2. Course requirements
- 3. Assessment Requirements



Career Readiness Graduation Option Considerations

- Goal: To produce students with the ability to gain meaningful employment.
- Alternate program of study that develops students' career interests and workplace readiness.



Career Graduation Option- Documentation

Should a student be on the Career Option?

- 1) Document rationale (on IEP) for rejecting standard pathway.
- 2) Base decisions on needs of student (not credit number or test scores).
- 3) Give parent/guardian information and obtain agreement.

Career Readiness Graduation Option- Course Requirements

- A minimum* of twenty-four credits of coursework as defined by the IEP team, including:
 - a minimum of four units of career technology courses;
 - demonstration of competency in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies; and
 - competency in all areas of the **Employability and Career Development Standards with Benchmarks**, as defined in 6.29.3.8 NMAC.

**District policy may require a greater number of credits to graduate.*

Employability and Career Development Standards with Benchmarks:

There are Content Standards and Benchmarks beneath each strand.

Strand 1: Academic Foundations

Strand 2: Communications

Strand 3: Problem Solving and Critical Thinking

Strand 4: Information Technology Applications

Strand 5: Systems

Strand 6: Safety, Health and Environmental Management

Strand 7: Leadership and Team Work

Strand 8: Ethics & Legal Responsibilities

Strand 9: Employability and Career Development

Strand 10: Technical Skills

Career Readiness Graduation Option- Assessment requirements

Students on the Career Readiness Graduation Option take similar assessment as students on the Standard Option, but the IEP team may set passing scores for all assessments.

There are two primary differences in the assessment program:

- Students on the career option have the ability to retake the SBA in reading and math in fall 2015, and
- These students may meet IEP-set passing scores on the PARCC *Algebra I* assessment.

Career Option Assessment Requirements for HS Graduation **2016**

Primary Demonstration of Competency

Reading: Meet Individualized passing score on the SBA Reading with an option for fall 2015 retest OR meet individualized passing score on PARCC ELA Grade 11

Writing: Meet individualized passing score on PARCC ELA Grade 11 OR meet individualized passing scores on one writing EoC

Math: Meet individualized passing score on the SBA Math with an option for fall 2015 retest OR meet individualized passing score on any high school level PARCC math test (Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II)

Science: Meet individualized passing score on SBA Science.

Social Studies: Meet individualized passing score on one social studies EoC

Students on the career option who do not meet the passing scores on the primary demonstration of competency may use the Alternate Demonstration of Competency (ADC) after completing the same attempt requirements as students on the standard graduation option

Important Graduation Information in IEP

Additional Documentation For Students On The Career Readiness Graduation Option:

- Rationale for placement on Career Option
- Program of study with career cluster
- Plan to achieve competency (and documentation of success) in all Career Readiness Standards and Benchmarks
- Results of assessments and IEP-team established individualized passing scores
- Transition plan

Ability Graduation Option Requirements

1. Considerations
2. Course Requirements
3. Assessment requirements



Ability Graduation Option- Considerations

- Goal: To produce students with basic life skills.
- For students with severe cognitive impairments that affect the student in multiple settings (school, home, community).

Ability Graduation Option- Course Requirements

- A minimum* of twenty-four credits of coursework as defined by the IEP team.
 - Students must demonstrate competency in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, according to their own ability.

****District policy may require a greater number of credits to graduate.***

Ability Graduation Option- course of study

A student's program of study must:

- focus on functional life and community skills,
- Include extended grade-level academic content and skills
- work towards goals, objectives and benchmarks indicated in the Extended Grade Band Expectations (EGBEs) and identified by the IEP team,
- include transition services.



Extended Grade Band Expectations (EGBEs)

Based on Common Core State Standards and New Mexico State Standards

Establish learning and assessment expectations for students with significant cognitive disabilities

Form the foundation for the New Mexico Alternative Performance Assessment (NMAPA)

<http://ped.state.nm.us/AssessmentAccountability/AssessmentEvaluation/egbe/index.html>

Ability Graduation Option- Assessment Requirements

- Students on the Ability Graduation Option take alternate assessments, and their IEP team may set passing scores.
 - National Center State Collaborative (NCSC)
 - For ELA and math. Aligned to CCSS.
 - New Mexico Alternate Performance Assessment (NMAPA)
 - For science and social studies.
- If individualized passing scores in ELA and math were met on NMAPA prior to 2015, students may use these scores toward graduation.

Ability Graduation Option

A student may graduate on the Ability Option if s/he:

- 1) successfully completes the program of study set forth by the IEP team,
- 2) has documentation indicating that the student has progressed in the necessary skills identified by the IEP team (independence, communication, work experience, etc.), and
- 3) achieves a level of proficiency determined by the student's IEP team on the alternate graduation exit exams (NMAPA/NCSC).

Important Graduation Information in IEP

Additional Documentation For Students On The Ability Option:

Rationale for placement on Ability Option

- Course sequence
- Results of assessments and IEP-team established individualized passing scores
- Transition plan

Guidelines for **Setting Passing Scores** on Graduation Assessments for Career and Ability Option Students NMAC 6.29.1.9.J.13.g

1. Review student success in instruction and on assessments



- Progress in classroom
- Results from interim assessments
- Scores on first attempt of the Graduation Assessment

Guidelines for **Setting Passing Scores** on Graduation Assessments for Career and Ability Option Students

2. Identify the subject area(s) in which the student performed below the established cut score.



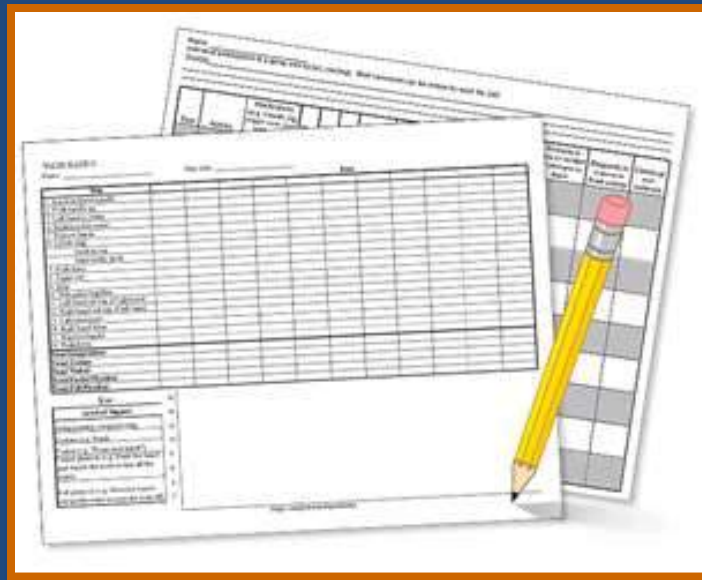
- The student is reported to the state as “not proficient” in this area.

Guidelines for **Setting Passing Scores** on Graduation Assessments for Career and Ability Option Students

3. Using information about the student's ability, potential, and progress, determine an attainable target score for each subject on the assessment.
 - The target scores must be higher than the scores achieved on the first attempt, to promote progress.

Guidelines for **Setting Passing Scores** on Graduation Assessments for Career and Ability Option Students

The IEP Team may establish new passing scores after each assessment attempt, if necessary.



Graduation Requirements by Option

Option	Course Requirements	Assessment Requirements
Standard	Meet required credit # through pre-determined courses (with some choice)	Meet established passing scores on required tests (PARCC/SBA/EoCs) with or without accommodations.
Career	Meet required credit # through mix of standard and alternate courses determined by IEP team. Minimum 4 units of career development courses/experiences.	Meet individualized passing scores on required tests (PARCC/SBA/EoCs) determined by IEP team.
Ability	Determined by IEP team to reflect student abilities.	Meet individualized passing scores on all subjects of the Alternate Assessment (NCSC/NMAPA)

Standards by Option

Option	Standards
Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ELA, Math: CCSS• Science, Social Studies: NMSS
Career	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ELA, Math: CCSS• Science, Social Studies: NMSS• <i>Employability and Career Development Standards (Grade 7-HS)</i>
Ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ELA, Math: CCSS/CCEGBE• Science, Social Studies: NMEGBE

New Mexico Diploma of Excellence

New Mexico diploma is the same regardless of the graduation option.



Transcript must indicate alternate pathway and include results of state assessments in each area.

Thank you for your time.

We will now open the forum for questions.

Public Education Department

Special Education Bureau

