

Diploma Options for Students with Disabilities



January 15, 2013

Code of Virginia 22.1.253.13:4

- This change in the regulations changed the number of diploma types
- The bills (HB1061 and SB 489) eliminated the Modified Standard Diploma, Standard Technical Diploma, Advanced Technical Diploma and the General Achievement Diploma



Code of Virginia 22.1.253.13:4

- The diploma types described are:
 - Standard and Advanced Studies Diploma with one virtual course; Standard Diploma with accommodations for SWD; the guidelines for credit accommodations will be issued by the Board of Education
 - Career and Technical Education within the Standard Diploma
 - Special Diploma



Modified Standard Diploma

- No longer an option for SWD entering 9th grade for the first time in 2013-2014
- Students enrolled in 9th grade prior to 2013-2014 who were seeking a Modified Standard diploma will complete their course of study.



Credit Accommodations

- Means adjustments to meet the standard and verified credit requirements for earning a Standard Diploma for students with disabilities.



Credit Accommodations



- May include:
 - Approval of alternative courses to meet the standard credit requirements;
 - Modifications to the requirements for local school divisions to award locally awarded verified credits
 - Approval of additional tests to earn a verified credit
 - Adjusted cut scores required to earn verified credit
 - Allowance of work-based learning experiences

Standard Diploma

- 4 credits in English (2 verified credits)
- 3 credits in Math (1 verified credit)
- 3 credits in Laboratory Science (1 verified credit)
- 3 credits in History and Social Sciences (1 verified credit)
- 2 credits in Health and PE



Standard Diploma

- 2 credits in Foreign Language, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education
- 1 credit in Economics and Personal Finance
- 4 Electives
- 1 Student Selected Test (1 verified credit)
- Total – 22 credits (6 verified credits required)



Advanced Studies Diploma

- 4 credits in English (2 verified credits)
- 4 credits in Math (2 verified credits)
- 4 credits in Laboratory Science (2 verified credits)
- 4 credits in History and Social Sciences (2 verified credits)
- 3 credits in a Foreign Language



Advanced Studies Diploma

- 2 credits in Health and PE
- 1 credit Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education
- 1 credit in Economics and Personal Finance
- 3 Electives
- 1 Student Selected Test (1 verified credit)
- Total – 26 credits (9 verified credits required)



Requirement for Standard and Advanced Studies Diploma

- To receive a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma , students shall successfully complete one virtual course, which may be a noncredit-bearing course, or may be a course required to earn the diploma that is offered online.



What's Next?

- More guidance from the Virginia Department of Education in these areas:
 - Alternative courses to meet the standard credit requirements;
 - Modifications to the requirements for local school divisions to award locally awarded verified credits
 - Approval of additional tests to earn a verified credit
 - Adjusted cut scores required to earn verified credit
 - Allowance of work-based learning experiences

