

Special Committee on
Improving Educational
Opportunities in High School
August 20, 2012

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Wisconsin Department of Public
Instruction

Article X Section 3 Wisconsin Constitution

The legislature shall provide ...

Schools

Nearly uniform

Free and without charge for tuition

All children between the ages of 4 and 20

Compulsory School Attendance §118.15, Wis. Stats.

Except as provided ...unless the child is excused or has graduated from high school any person having control over a child who is between the ages of 6 and 18 shall cause the child to attend school regularly...until the end of the term, quarter or semester of the school year in which the child becomes 18 years of age.

Children at Risk of Not Graduating From High School s. 118.153

Students in grades 5 – 12 who are

- ◎ Dropouts or
- ◎ 2 or more of the following:
 - > A year or more behind in credits
 - > 2 or more years behind in basic skills
 - > Delinquent
 - > Habitually truant
 - > Teen parent
 - > 8th grade retention or basic scores on WKCE

Under §118.153, Wis. Stats., every school board shall identify the children at risk who are enrolled in the school district and annually by August 15 develop a plan describing how the school board will meet their needs.

s.118.33(1)(a), Wis. Stats.

4 English

3 Social Studies

2 Math

2 Science

1.5 Physical Education

.5 health (grades 7-12)

13 credits

+ 8 electives (recommended)

21 credits

s.118.33(1)(a), Wis. Stats.

NCLB Waiver proposed changes

4 English

3 Social Studies

3 Math

3 Science

1.5 Physical Education

.5 health (grades 7-12)

15 credits

+ 6.5 electives (required)

21.5 credits

class of 2017

s.118.33(1)(a), Wis. Stats.

NCLB Waiver proposed changes

4 English

3 Social Studies

3 Math

3 Science

1.5 Physical Education

.5 health (grades 7-12)

15 credits

+ 6.5 electives (required)

21.5 credits

class of 2017

s.118.33(1)(g)1. Technical Education Diploma - 2011 Act 156

A school board may grant a technical education diploma to a pupil who does all of the following:

- a. Satisfies the requirements under par. (a)
- b. Earns in the high school grades the same number of credits that the school board requires of other pupils for high school graduation
- c. Successfully completes a technical education program, established by the school board in subject or subjects.

s.118.33(1)(g)1. (continued)

2. In establishing a technical education program under subd.1.c., the school board may incorporate standards for industry recognized certifications. Annually the department shall provide to each school board operating high school grades a list of such certifications. The school board shall indicate on a pupil's technical education high school diploma the certifications attained by the pupil.

s. 118.33(1)(d) Wis. Stats.

A school board may grant a high school diploma to a pupil who has not satisfied the credit requirements if all of the following apply:

1. The pupil was enrolled in an alternative education program
2. The pupil has demonstrated a level of proficiency in the subjects listed.

Types of Alternative Education Programs

- ◉ Credit Recovery
- ◉ Computer-aided Instruction (CAI)
 - › Nova Net, Plato, Successmaker, E2020
- ◉ Virtual classes or transfer credit
- ◉ PASS Packets
- ◉ Credit Acceleration
- ◉ School to Work & Work Experience
- ◉ Employability Skills Certificate
- ◉ Youth Apprenticeship

Types of Alternative Education Programs - continued

- ◉ Competency Based Programs
- ◉ GED Option #2
- ◉ Community Based Organizations
- ◉ Partnership Schools
- ◉ Challenge Academy
- ◉ GED/HSED and §118.15 Contract

GEDO #2

- Students use GED tests and other requirements to document competency
- Students must meet specific criteria to earn their way into the program
- Students are prepared at the high school, but test at the testing centers
- Students receive traditional high school diploma and are graduates of the high school
- 140 school districts in Wisconsin since inception in 2001

GED vs. HSED

- ◎ GED = General Educational Development
 - › 5 national tests: English, Science, Social Studies, Writing, Math
 - › In Wisconsin the GED is only available to persons over 18.5
- ◎ HSED = High School Equivalency Diploma
 - › Wisconsin's version of the GED, required for persons under 18.5, available to all
 - › 5 GED tests plus: career awareness, employability skills, civics, and health

§118.15 Contracts

- Only way for high school age students to access the HSED
- Student must be 17 years old to take HSED tests
- Contracting with Technical Colleges
- Contracting with Community Based Organizations (CBO's)
- GED/HSED is not graduation

Contact Information

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