

## GRADUATION POLICY

It is the intent of the Chicopee Public Schools to provide students with a comprehensive and extensive high school experience.

### Graduation Requirements

In order to be eligible for a diploma, students must accumulate one hundred ten (110) credits and pass the following required subjects: twenty (20) credits of English, fifteen (15) credits of Mathematics, fifteen (15) credits of Science, twelve and one half (12.5) credits of Social Studies (Modern World History (2.5 credits) and US History (10 credits)), five (5) credits of Fine Arts, two and one-half (2.5) credits of Health, and seven and one-half (7.5) credits of Physical Education (one course each year for the first four years of attendance). The remainder of the one hundred ten (110) credit requirement will be filled through electives.

English	20 credits
Mathematics	15 credits
Science	15 credits
Social Studies	12.5 credits
Fine Arts	5 credits
Physical Education/Health	10 credits
Electives	32.5 credits
<b>Total</b>	<b>110 credits</b>

### Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS)

In accordance with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Chicopee Public Schools will administer state-mandated MCAS tests. In high school, students are tested in grade 10 and must pass them in order to be eligible for graduation and their diploma.

### High School Promotion

At Chicopee Comprehensive High School and Chicopee High School, when students complete their Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior year, they will advance to the next grade level. Students will advance to the next grade level even if they are deficient in credits from the previous year. Students may remain in the Senior Year for as many years as necessary to complete their credit requirement for graduation and/or pass MCAS.

### Early Graduation

Students are expected to matriculate through a four-year experience. An exceptionally advanced student who has met all graduation requirements and who cannot be served through Chicopee Public School's curriculum or other dual enrollment opportunities may apply for early graduation. The student must make his/her plans known to his/her guidance counselor at least one year prior to the desired graduation date. The Superintendent, or designee, will make the final decision on

the feasibility of early graduation after a conference with parents/guardians, the student, the guidance counselor and the principal.

**Credit for Foreign Study**

Students who are away for a term or year to participate in a student exchange program or otherwise study abroad may receive credits toward high school graduation when (1) study plans are approved by the school administration in advance; and (2) the institution where the study occurred submits a record of the student's work. In these instances, the Principal and student's guidance counselor will evaluate the work and assign credit for it according to standards prevailing in the Chicopee Public Schools.

**Graduation Exercises**

The date of the high school graduation exercises will be on the most appropriate weekend, not more than 12 school days prior to the end of the school year, in compliance with state laws.

Legal Ref.: M.G.L. 71:4

1st reading: May 16, 2018

2nd reading: June 6, 2018

Cross Reference: Dual Enrollment Policy (I5)

Related Procedure: Graduation Procedures (I31.1)