

## DISCLAIMER

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Upon a majority vote of the board of school trustees in a school district, the trustees may establish a basic diploma for students who have completed a minimum of four years of high school, who are credit-sufficient, and who have met every requirement for high school graduation with the exception of passage of the high school proficiency exam, who have attempted unsuccessfully five or more times to pass the high school proficiency exam, and who have otherwise satisfied minimum criteria as established by the board of school trustees.

In school districts where a majority vote of the board has established a basic diploma for students who have met the criteria outlined above, the board of school trustees for the school district shall establish an appeal process for the purpose of reviewing the records, transcripts, and other documentation. The board of school trustees for the school district, in conjunction with the school superintendent of the district, shall establish minimum criteria to be evaluated, including, but not limited to:

- A composite score based on the average of the highest score of each section of the high school proficiency exam achieved by the student;
- The coursework attempted by the student throughout high school, the number of credits received, and the grade point average achieved;
- The student's attendance record throughout high school;
- The student's citizenship record throughout high school;
- The student's participation in service clubs, student activities, and extra-curricular activities throughout high school;
- The student's participation in remedial opportunities provided by the school or district to prepare the student for the high school proficiency exam;
- Documentation of other remedial courses, tutoring, or activities completed by the student to prepare for the high school proficiency exam;
- Official acceptance documents to participate in post-graduate programs contingent upon the candidate's acquisition of a high school diploma, such as service in the military, or college or university acceptance; and
- Confidential letters of evaluation from not more than three teachers, administrators, parents, or religious leaders.

In school districts where a majority vote of the board has established a basic diploma, the board of school trustees and the superintendent shall establish a screening committee consisting of at least one

- highly-qualified teacher of high school mathematics
- highly-qualified teacher of high school English
- highly-qualified teacher of special education
- highly-qualified teacher of second language programs in districts where such programs are offered
- high school counselor
- high school principal
- high school dean or assistant principal
- parent
- representative of the business community
- representative of higher education

In school districts where a majority vote of the board has established a basic diploma, a student may make an application to the board of school trustees for a basic diploma. The screening committee established by the board of trustees, shall review and evaluate the documentation required in section 3

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to determine whether the student has met the minimum criteria set by the board of school trustees and superintendent, as outlined in section 2, and recommend to the board of school trustees whether the candidate should receive a basic diploma.

In school districts where a majority vote of the board has established a basic diploma and upon the recommendation of the screening committee to the board of school trustees, the board of school trustees may award a basic diploma to students who have completed a minimum of four years of high school, who are credit-sufficient, and who have met every requirement for high school graduation with the exception of passage of the high school proficiency exam, who have attempted unsuccessfully five or more times to pass the high school proficiency exam, and who have otherwise satisfied minimum criteria as established by the board of school trustees as outlined in section 3.

In school districts where a majority vote of the board has established a basic diploma, the term *standard diploma* may be changed to *comprehensive diploma* to further distinguish between the two exit documents.