

Instruction Sheet – AASB POLICY REFERENCE MANUAL UPDATE SERVICE

2015-2016 UPDATE INSTRUCTION SHEET

NOTE: This packet includes only those policy manual pages that have been revised, deleted or newly established. Full text pages are included and are to be substituted as indicated below.

For ease of School Boards, AASB has identified those portions of the Update that require formal Board action in order to implement the policy changes. This is indicated by a “Yes” or “No.” A “No” is used if changes have been made only to an AR or an Exhibit, or if policy changes are limited to explanatory notes, legal reference or cross-reference updates, or minor grammatical or stylistic changes that have not changed the policy meaning.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THE 2015-16 UPDATE: Several policies included in this update are based on changes to federal and state law that are not effective until the 2017-2018 school year. These policies are identified below with the notation “Delayed Implementation Note.” Accordingly, districts need not adopt these policy revisions until a later date, if delayed adoption is desired. If the policy is adopted prior to the effective date of the law, districts will need to be in compliance with the policy requirements.

Replace/Add	Formal Adoption Required	Description
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ARTICLE 6, Series 6000 - Instruction

BP 6146.1	Yes	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS Changes were made to the second introductory note, the text of the policy and the legal references section to reflect the repeal of portions of AS 14.03.075 that required secondary students to take a college and career readiness assessment before being issued a diploma. This change in the law is effective for the 2016-17 school year; students graduating in the 2015-16 school year must still take the assessment as a condition of receiving a diploma.
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HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

BP 6146.1

Note: Transfer students who have earned 13 unit credits in another district may, at the district's discretion, be excused from the district's subject area units-of-credit requirements. 4 AAC 06.075.

Note: The following sample policy reflects the minimum graduation requirements specified in 4 AAC 06.075 and should be revised to reflect district philosophy and needs. Effective June 30, 2016, the requirement that no secondary student be issued a diploma unless he or she has taken a college and career readiness assessment is repealed. At the request of a student, the district shall retroactively issue a high school diploma to a student who did not receive one because of failure to pass all or a portion of the secondary school competency examination and instead received a certificate of achievement. AS 14.03.075. The district is to mail a notice of this option to each such student who qualifies for a diploma to the student's last known address.

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare for School Board approval a plan consisting of district graduation requirements. Students shall receive diplomas of graduation from high school only after meeting the following district graduation requirements.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>UNITS OF CREDIT</u>	
Language arts	4	
Social studies	3*	
Mathematics	2	For students graduating from high school on or before June 30, 2017.
Mathematics	3	For students graduating from high school on or after July 1, 2017
Science	2	
Health/physical education	1	
Electives	9	

*Note: The three units of credit in social studies must include one-half unit of credit in Alaska history or demonstration that the student meets the Alaska history performance standards. This requirement will not apply to a student who (1) transfers into your school after the student's second year of high school; or (2) has already successfully completed a high school state history course in another state. 4 AAC 06.075.

(cf. 5127 - *Graduation Ceremonies and Activities*)

(cf. 6164.2 - *Guidance and Counseling Services*)

(cf. 6146.3 - *Competency Testing*)

(cf. 6184 - *Virtual/ Online Courses*)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.075 *College and career readiness assessment; retroactive issuance of diploma*

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.075 *High school graduation requirements*

4 AAC 06.721 *College and career readiness assessment waivers*

4 AAC 06.755 *Statewide assessment program for students with disabilities*

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