

student who wishes to become a candidate for graduation at the end of the year, the school receiving the student should require approval in writing of the transfer and the student's candidacy for graduation from the principal of the school from which the student has withdrawn. The letter of approval together with any necessary memoranda should be filed with the transcript of the student's record from the discharging school. In case of doubt as to procedure or appropriate action in such case, either or both of the principals of the schools concerned should discuss the matter with the State Department of Education.

(c) Conditions of Issuance of Graduation Certificates. (Refer to Graduation Activities and Diplomas of Special Education Services AAC Rule 290-8-9-.10(9)(c) through 290-8-9-.10(9)(g).)

(d) College and Career Readiness.

1. Effective with the 2023-2024 school year and commencing with the cohort of public-school students who will graduate during the 2027-2028 school year, all public school students shall demonstrate postsecondary education and workforce readiness by earning one or more of the following college or career readiness indicators before graduation:

- (i) Earning a benchmark score in any subject area on the ACT college entrance exam.
- (ii) Earning a qualifying score of three or higher on an advanced placement exam.
- (iii) Earning a qualifying score of four or higher on an international baccalaureate exam.
- (iv) Earning college credit while in high school.
- (v) Earning a silver or gold level on the ACT WorkKeys Exam.
- (vi) Completing an in-school youth apprenticeship program.
- (vii) Earning a career technical industry credential listed on the compendium of valuable credentials of the Alabama Committee on ~~Credentialing and Career Pathways~~ Quality and Transparency.
- (viii) Being accepted into the military before graduation.

(ix) Attaining career and technical education completer status.

(x) Completing an ALSDE approved computer science course

(xi) Any additional college and career readiness indicator approved by the State Board of Education.

2. Except for diplomas issued under Special Education Services rules, no student shall receive a diploma without earning one or more of the college or career readiness indicators.

3. Any student not receiving a diploma pursuant to this section, who later becomes in compliance, may only receive a diploma if the remedy occurs within the two years of their initial failure to graduate.

(g) Digital Literacy and Computer Science

1. Commencing with the cohort of public school students who will graduate during the 2031-2032 school year, all public school students shall demonstrate digital literacy by earning at least one (1) unit of credit in an ALSDE approved computer science course or completion of a course with embedded computer science skills and experiences. This requirement shall not result in an increase in the number of credits required for graduation.

2. Each computer science credit earned shall count as a college and career readiness indicator and shall count as fulfilling one (1) mathematics (excluding Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II), science (excluding Biology and one Physical Science), career and technical education, or elective credit, as determined by the local superintendent of education.

- (1) Time Allotment and Credit Requirements for Secondary Schools.
- (a) One credit may be granted in Grades 9-12 for required for elective courses consisting of a minimum of 140 instructional hours or in which students demonstrate mastery of Alabama course of study content standards in one credit courses without specified instructional time. This does not impact Section 16-1-1 and AAC r. 290-3-1-.02(2)(a) (length of school day) or Section 16-13-231 (number of days in a school year). All subjects taught are considered major subjects. The Alabama State Department of Education does not recognize major and minor subjects in Grades K-12.
- (b) Any fractional credit which a student earns may be combined with any other fractional credit and cumulatively count toward graduation or for promotional purposes.