Mississippi's

Diploma Options

Innovative/Accelerated Programs

Mississippi Department of Education

VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community

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State Board of Education Goals

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2016-2020

1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
2. Every Student Graduates From High School and is Ready for College and Career
3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
5. Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
6. Every School and District is Rated “C” or Higher

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Current Graduation Options

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Students enrolled grades 11-12

- Use the graduation requirements for school year they entered the 9th grade.

- To include:
  - Career Pathway Diploma
  - District Option Diploma
  - Traditional/Standard Diploma
  - Early Exit Diploma
  - Mississippi Occupational Diploma
  - Certificate of Attendance

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10th graders in 2018-2019

- Use the graduation requirements for school year they entered the 9th grade.

- To include:
  - District Option Diploma
  - Traditional/Standard Diploma
  - Early Exit Diploma
  - Certificate of Attendance

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9th graders in 2018-2019

- Traditional Diploma with 3 endorsement options
  - Career and Technical Endorsement
  - Academic Endorsement
  - Distinguished Academic Endorsement
- Alternate Diploma
- Certificate of Completion

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Traditional Diploma

Effective 2018-19 for all Incoming 9th Graders

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Traditional Diploma Requirements

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Math	4	Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I
Social Studies	3 ½	World History (1) US History (1) Economics (1/2) US Government (1/2) MS Studies (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
College & Career Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Electives	5 ½	
TOTAL	24	

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Requirements for Traditional Diploma

Student **should** identify an endorsement area prior to entering 9th grade. Endorsement requirements can only be changed with parental permission.

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Early Release

Beginning with incoming 9th graders in 2018-2019

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What is Early Release?

Early release is a term referring to the practice of schools allowing students who have earned most of their graduation credits to leave campus for part of the school day to work in the community during their senior year.

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Requirements for Early Release

For early release, students must have **EITHER**

1. met MS IHL and Community College readiness benchmarks (ACT sub scores 17 English and 19 Math or SAT equivalency) or earned a Silver level on ACT WorkKeys.

OR

2. meet **ALL** of the following:

- Have a 2.5 GPA
- Passed or met all MAAP assessments requirements for graduation
- Be on track to meet diploma requirements
- Be concurrently enrolled in Essentials for College Math and/or Essentials for College Literacy

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Reasons for Changes in Early Release

- Goal #2 of the SBE
- Responsibility to prepare all students to exit high school ready for post-secondary work without remediation and/or the necessary skills to enter the workforce in a job with a sustainable wage.
- Districts are allocated funds based on a student's enrollment as a fulltime student.
- Making students aware of the readiness requirement will encourage initiative and involvement in meeting standards by the student and parents.

Traditional Diploma

Endorsement Options

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Traditional Diploma with Career and Technical Endorsement

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I
Social Studies	3½	1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
CTE Electives	4	Must complete a 4-course sequential program of study
Additional Electives	3½	
Total	26	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
- Earn Silver level on ACT WorkKeys
- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One CTE dual credit course or earn articulated credit in the high school CTE course
- Work-based Learning Experience or the Career Pathway Experience
- Earn a State Board of Education approved national credential

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Traditional Diploma with Academic Endorsement

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I + two (2) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I + two (2) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	3½	1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	7½	Must meet 2 advanced electives of the CPC requirements for MS IHLs
Total	26	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
- Courses must meet MS IHL college preparatory curriculum (CPC) requirements
- Earn MS IHL and Community College readiness benchmarks (ACT sub scores of 17 English and 19 math as approved by post-secondary for non-remediation at most community colleges and IHL college-ready courses in senior year, or SAT equivalency
- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One AP course with a C or higher and take the appropriate AP exam
- One DP-IB course with a C or higher and take the appropriate IB exams
- One academic dual credit course with a C or higher in the course

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Traditional Diploma with Distinguished Endorsement

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I + two (2) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	4	Biology I + two (2) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	4	1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	8	Must meet 2 advanced electives of the CPC requirements for MS IHLs
Total	28	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 3.0
- Courses must meet MS IHL CPC recommended requirements
- Earn national college-readiness benchmarks on each subtest established by ACT (sub scores of 18 English and 22 math) or SAT equivalency
- Earn four additional Carnegie Units for a total of 28

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One AP course with a B or higher and take the appropriate AP exam
- One DP-IB course with a B or higher and take the appropriate IB exams
- One academic dual credit course with a B or higher in the course

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District Changes

Traditional Diploma and Endorsements

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How do District Changes Affect Endorsements?

The rule for allowing additional district requirements to the Traditional Diploma mandates that the change is carried throughout the endorsements. It is added to the Traditional diploma; therefore, it carries forward to the endorsements.

Allowable District Changes to the Traditional Diploma

- May increase any diploma requirements above the state approved requirements
- Changes must be for ALL students
- Not allowed to have different levels of diploma requirements

Is this Diploma Change Allowable for Districts?

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English III English II English IV
Math	4	Algebra I 1 additional higher math higher course Geometry any other 1 full credit math
Science	4	Biology I A physical science based course Any 2 full credit science courses
Social Studies	4	World History (1) US Government (1/2) US History (1) MS Studies (1/2) Economics (1/2) Geography (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Electives	5	
TOTAL	24	

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Answer

NO

The College and Career Readiness (CCR) Course is <u>not included</u> in the district requirements.

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Correct Allowable District Option

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English III English II English IV
Math	4	Algebra I 1 additional higher math higher course Geometry any other 1 full credit math
Science	4	Biology I A physical science based course Any 2 full credit science courses
Social Studies	4	World History (1) US Government (1/2) US History (1) MS Studies (1/2) Economics (1/2) Geography (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
College & Career Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Electives	4	
TOTAL	24	

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Can a District have an Opt-Out Requirement?

- District Traditional Diploma Requirements
- District Opt-Out Diploma Requirements

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District Traditional Diploma Requirements

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English III English II English IV
Math	4	Algebra I 1 additional higher math higher course Geometry any other 1 full credit math
Science	4	Biology I A physical science based course Any 2 full credit science courses
Social Studies	4	World History (1) US Government (1/2) US History (1) MS Studies (1/2) Economics (1/2) Geography (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
College & Career Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Electives	6	
TOTAL	26	

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District Opt-Out Traditional Diploma Requirements

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Math	4	Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I
Social Studies	3 ½	World History (1) US History (1) Economics (1/2) US Government (1/2) MS Studies (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
College & Career Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Electives	5 ½	
TOTAL	24	

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Answer

NO

Districts may only have one Traditional Diploma for ALL students.

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Can a District Require Online Learning?

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Traditional Diploma Requirements

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Math	4	Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I
Social Studies	3 ½	World History (1) US History (1) Economics (1/2) US Government (1/2) MS Studies (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
College & Career Readiness	1	Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Approved Online Course		Student must successfully complete one online course for graduation
Electives	5 ½	
TOTAL	24	

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Answer

YES

Districts can add requirements for online learning if the requirement applies to ALL students.

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Early Graduation

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Early Graduation

Early graduation is when a student earns all the credits needed for graduation before his or her senior year and chooses to receive the diploma early and exit high school.

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Recommendations for All Students

- For early graduation, a student should successfully complete an area of endorsement.
- Students should take a math or math equivalent course during their senior year.

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Diploma Resources

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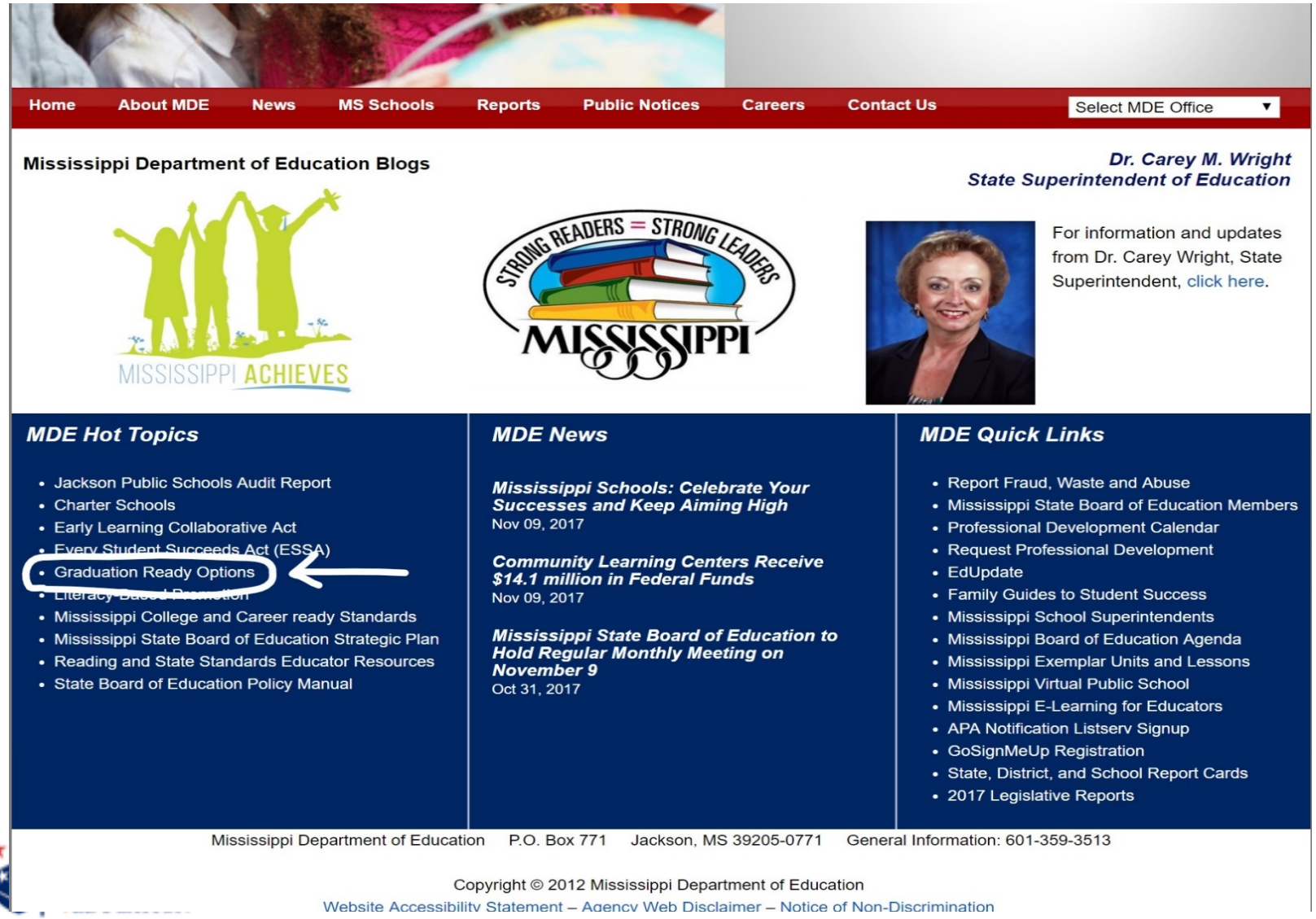
College and Career Development Resources



How to Access Career Development Resources:

- Go to www.mde.k12.ms.us
- Scroll to bottom and click "Graduation Ready Options"

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Resources

- Diploma Endorsement Option Resources

Office of Secondary Education Page

PARENTS | STUDENTS | EDUCATORS | DISTRICTS

Home | About MDE | News | MS Schools | Reports | Public Notices | Careers | Contact Us | Select MDE Office

IN THIS SECTION

Secondary Education
- Staff
- Calendar
- Announcements

Content Areas:
Counseling & Support Services
Advanced Placement
Business & Technology
Career Technical Education
Compliance and Reporting
Compulsory School Attendance
Contemporary Health (9-12)
English/Language Arts
Graduation & Course e-Catalog
Mathematics
Physical Education
Science
Social Studies
Standards for Professional Learning
Visual & Performing Arts
World Languages

Other Links:
Approved Courses
C & I Sharepoint
MASS Presentation January 2018
MS Virtual Public School
New Diploma Endorsement Options
RESA's
Suicide – Bullying Prevention

June 2018 Board Meeting Items

Office of Secondary Education

The Office of Secondary Education assists district personnel in improving classroom instruction through the development, revision and training on our Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards in both Academic and Career Technical Education (CTE). Through training and development, our content area specialists and program staff help school and district personnel implement state standards, as well as best practices for improving student achievement.

- 2018-2019 Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi
- Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Procedures Manual
- Special Topics Courses in Science Application
- Traditional Diploma with Endorsement Flyer

Resources:

- AP and ACT Resources Recorded Webinars
- MS Innovation Lab Network
- **Mississippi Exemplar Units and Lessons**
- Early Warning System District Guidance Document
- Dyslexia
- Intervention Services
- Library Media
- Literacy
- Textbook Adoption and Procuremen

MS Social Studies Educators Listser

MS ELA Educators Listserv

MS Science Educators Listserv

MS Math Educators Listserv

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Alternate Diploma

For Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

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Why have an Alternate Diploma?

Under *ESSA*, states may develop an Alternate Diploma for students with significant cognitive disabilities and have it count in the state's graduation rate if:

- It is aligned with the requirements of the general education diploma and
- It is given within the time frame for which the student is eligible for a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

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Alternate Diploma Option for Students with Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD)

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	Alternate English Elements I-IV
Mathematics	4	Alternate Math Elements I-III Alternate Algebra Elements
Science	2	Alternate Biology Elements Alternate Science Elements II
Social Studies	2	Alternate History Elements (Strands: U.S. History and World History) Alternate Social Studies Elements (Strands: Economics and U.S. Government)
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	Alternate Health Benefits
Art	1	
Vocational Readiness	4	Career Readiness I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Employability, and Social)
Life Skills Development	4	Life Skills Development I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Personal Care, and Social)
Additional Electives	2	
Total	24	

Requirements

- The Alternate Diploma is not equivalent to a traditional high school diploma and is not recognized by postsecondary entities that require a traditional high school diploma.
- All students are required to participate in the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program-Alternate Assessment (MAAP-A) with a score TBD.
- Students who have met the criteria on their IEP for having a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD) may participate in a program of study to earn the Alternate Diploma.

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Defining Significant Cognitive Disabilities

- Significant cognitive disability (SCD) is not a category under IDEA.
- Represents less than 1% of the population.
- General education assessments, even with accommodations and modifications, are not appropriate.
- Represents students across categories: intellectual disabilities, autism, multiple disabilities, traumatic brain injury. (SCD is not determined by IQ alone).
- Poor performance on State assessments and/or deficient reading scores do not qualify students as SCD.

ESSA Cap on Number of Alternate Diploma

- *ESSA* has capped the number of students who may take the Alternate Assessment
- "for each subject, the total number of students assessed using the alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards **does not exceed 1 percent** of the total number of all students in the State who are assessed in such subject"

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Certificate

Of Completion

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Definition

- A Certificate of Completion is not a high school diploma or an Alternate Diploma, but rather an acknowledgement of the student's participation in and completion of his/her Individualized Education Program (IEP).

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Certificate Eligibility – Category 1

1. Students without a Significant Cognitive Disability at the end of the 8th grade who:

- Are 16 years old or older; AND
- At least 3 or more grade levels below their peers in reading and math; AND
- Have a signed statement from the parents that they understand that the Certificate of Completion is not a standard diploma and will not meet the requirements for entry into any career or post-secondary opportunity that requires a diploma.

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Certificate Eligibility – Category 2

2. Students with a Significant Cognitive Disability at the end of 8th grade who:

- Have extremely limited or no receptive and expressive communication; Have AND
- Have a signed statement from the parents that they understand that the Certificate of Completion is not a standard diploma and will not meet the requirements for entry into any career or post-secondary opportunity that requires a diploma.

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Certificate Eligibility – Category 3

3. Students with or without a Significant Cognitive Disability at the end of their third school year of high school (6 semesters) who:

- Have not earned at minimum 3 English credits, 3 math credits, 2 science credits, 2 social studies credits, and 5 electives; AND
- Have a signed statement from the parents that they understand that the Certificate of Completion is not a standard diploma and will not meet the requirements for entry into any career or post-secondary opportunity that requires a diploma.
- Have evidence of 3 or more years of intensive intervention to earn Carnegie Unit bearing courses (or Alternate Diploma Course Credits for students with a Significant Cognitive Disability).

Requirements

The student's IEP committee determines the course of study for the Certificate of Completion. Course work could include, as appropriate for the students:

- Intensive remediation in deficit area skills
- Career Preparation courses
- Life Skills Courses

Students earning the Certificate of Completion must have completed at least four years of high school and/or be at least 19 years of age at the time of graduation.

All Students are required to participate in the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program.

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