

## New Mexico Compilation Commission

### 22-13-1.1. Graduation requirements.

H. For students entering the ninth grade beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, at least one of the units required for graduation shall be earned as an advanced placement or honors course, a dual-credit course offered in cooperation with an institution of higher education or a distance learning course.

I. The department shall establish a procedure for students to be awarded credit through completion of specified career technical education courses for certain graduation requirements, and districts may choose to allow students who successfully complete an industry-recognized credential, certificate or degree to receive additional weight in the calculation of the student's grade point average.

J. Successful completion of the requirements of the New Mexico diploma of excellence shall be required for graduation for students entering the ninth grade beginning in the 2009-2010 school year. Successful completion of a minimum of twenty-four units aligned to the state academic content and performance standards shall be required to earn a New Mexico diploma of excellence. These units shall be as follows:

- (1) four units in English, with major emphasis on grammar, nonfiction writing and literature;
- (2) four units in mathematics, of which one shall be the equivalent to or higher than the level of algebra 2, unless the parent submitted written, signed permission for the student to complete a lesser mathematics unit; and provided that a financial literacy course that meets state mathematics academic content and performance standards shall qualify as one of the four required mathematics units;
- (3) three units in science, two of which shall have a laboratory component;
- (4) three and one-half units in social science, which shall include United States history and geography, world history and geography, government and economics and one-half unit of New Mexico history;
- (5) one unit in physical education, as determined by each school district, which may include a physical education program that meets state content and performance standards or participation in marching band, junior reserve officers' training corps or interscholastic sports sanctioned by the New Mexico activities association or any other co-curricular physical activity;
- (6) one unit in one of the following: a career cluster course, workplace readiness or a language other than English; and
- (7) seven and one-half elective units that meet department content and performance standards. Career and technical education courses shall be offered as an elective. Student service learning shall be offered as an elective. Financial literacy shall be offered as an elective. Pre-apprenticeship programs may be offered as electives. Media literacy may be offered as an elective.