

High School Graduation Task Force Recommendations

Graduation Pathways and Dual Enrollment



STATE BOARD MEETING

September 24, 2019

Credit and Program Regulatory Recommendations

Recommendation	State Board August 2019	State Board September 2019	State Board October 2019	Alignment with Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education*
1.2 Mathematics: Increase credit requirements from 3 to 4 credits; allow Computer Science as math credit	x			Aligned
1.5 Health Education: Increase credit requirement from .5 to 1.0			x	Silent
1.8 Technology Education: Reduce credit requirement from 1.0 to .5			x	Silent
1.9 Graduation Pathway: Require two pathways - Successful completion of a State-approved Career and Technology Education (CTE) program and/or completion of University System of Maryland (USM) requirements (two years of the same language, Algebra II, and two of three sciences as lab sciences)		x		Aligned
1.B Dual Enrollment: Dual Enrolled students who successfully complete a college course that is aligned with MD standards should receive high school (HS) credit.		x		Aligned

Rationale for recommendations regarding graduation pathways

1. Students should be meaningfully prepared for a specific destination. Align the pathways portion of the graduation requirements to: (a) workforce preparedness, and/or (b) postsecondary preparedness.
2. The CTE option requires successful completion of a State-approved CTE program. This refers specifically to the coursework requirements, which tend to be academically and/or technically-rigorous.
3. A new, third option should be considered. Suggestions include participation in apprenticeships, workforce training in programs such as Job Corps, STEM readiness program, the military, and advancement programs such as Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID).

Recommendation regarding Graduation Pathways

Interim Report of the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission)

The Interim Report of the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission) is closely aligned to the High School Graduation Task Force recommendations regarding post CCR program pathways:

- a. Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma pathway
- b. Associate's Degree in combination with the high school diploma
- c. Robust CTE programs offered by high school or two or four year institutions

Recommendations from the High School Graduation Task Force regarding Graduation Pathways

Require one or more of the following:

- a. Successful completion of a State-approved Career and Technology Education (CTE) Program
- b. Successful completion of the University System of Maryland requirements, which include two years of the same world language, Algebra II, and two of three sciences as lab sciences
- c. Provide further study of a third pathway

Current Status – Dual Enrollment

Maryland Annotated Code:

The Md. Code, Ed. Art. §18-14A-01 defines a dually enrolled student as:
a student who is dually enrolled in:

- (i) A secondary school in the State; and
- (ii) An institution of higher education in the State



Recommendation regarding Dual Enrollment

Interim Report of the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission)

The Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission) Workgroup #3 supports students' opportunities to take dual enrollment courses at the high school or on the college campus as soon as students earn CCR designation.

Recommendations from High School Graduation Task Force regarding Dual Enrollment

The Task Force noted the need for community colleges to become more consistent in what is offered as a part of a designated course. If the course is to be used for a high school credit, the course should be aligned to the high school standards for the high school course it is replacing.

High school students who successfully complete a college course aligned with the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards or an elective credit for graduation requirements, as determined by the MSDE, after consultation with the local school systems, receive the high school credit for the course.