



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Policy

Graduation from the Torrington High School implies (1) that students have satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study for the several grade levels in accordance with their respective abilities to achieve, (2) that they have satisfactorily passed any examinations and/or standards established by the faculty and approved by the board of education, and (3) that they have fulfilled the legally mandated number and distribution of credits. Graduation shall not be held until 180 days and 900 hours of actual school work are completed. The adopted school calendar shall indicate a graduation date which is no earlier than the 185th day. This may be modified after April 1 in any school year in conformity with applicable statute.

The Torrington Board of Education conforms to state regulations regarding credits for graduation from high school.

Beginning in 2006-2007, for the class graduating in 2007 and beyond, the following twenty-two (22) credits are required

English	4.0 credits
Mathematics	3.0 credits
Science	3.0 credits
Physical Education	1.0 credit
Social Studies	3.0 credits
(including 1 credit in U.S. History and .5 in American Govt.)	
Fine Arts	1.0 credit
Applied Education	1.0 credit
Electives	5.0 credits
(including .5 credit in Computer Applications)	
Health	1.0 credit
<u>Total</u>	22.0 credits

Beginning on August 29, 2007, credits will be awarded to students who pass required courses with a 65 average or higher.

Credits

- Only credit-bearing options approved by the Board, such as online learning and;
- recognized by the administration and the guidance personnel as successfully completed will be accepted, or,

- recognized by the administration that the student has satisfactorily demonstrated the objectives for a course of study through the completion of agreed-upon criteria, or,
- mastery of course objectives as determined by an assessment, rubric, performance, demonstration, or checklist, or,
- completion of a scheduled course in accordance with existing grading and attendance policies, will be recognized toward graduation credit.

Online Credit

- All courses that are taken online in which the student earns 65% or above will appear on the student's high school transcript and may count towards credit requirements provided that the course meets state standards and is certified by an eligible online course provider.
- Credit recovery
 - Students may not take more than 2 credits in the each of the core areas (English, Math, Social Studies, and Science) online for credits towards graduation in *credit recovery*. Students may not use online courses to recover more than 5 of the 22 credits (23%) required for graduation online (must have 17 credits earned through traditional courses offered at the school).
 - The credit limits stated above may be modified for an individual student with the consent of the Principal and the approval of the Superintendent.

Basic Skills Graduation Requirement

In order to graduate from Torrington High School, students beginning with the graduating class of 2008 must demonstrate proficiency in literacy and numeracy skills in the manner specified below. All students should strive to meet this requirement through CAPT first and then exercise the alternatives.

Graduating Class of 2008

- CAPT scores at/above the proficiency standard

Literacy: Either Reading Across the Disciplines or Writing Across the Disciplines

Numeracy: Mathematics

OR

- SAT/PSAT score at or above the national mean

Literacy: Critical reading

Numeracy: Mathematics

OR

- Successful completion of a portfolio in the deficit skill area(s) linked to a classroom experience.

Graduating Class of 2009 and following graduating classes

- CAPT scores at/above the proficiency standard. Students who did not achieve proficiency in their sophomore year MUST retake the appropriate CAPT subtest(s) in the junior year.

Literacy: Either Reading Across the Disciplines or
Writing Across the Disciplines

Numeracy: Mathematics

OR

- SAT/PSAT score at or above the national mean

Literacy: Critical reading

Numeracy: Mathematics

OR

- Successful completion of a portfolio in the deficit skill area(s) linked to a classroom experience.

Special Cases

Students with significant learning exceptionalities will have these options in their junior and senior year as pre-approved by the Director of Student Services and the building principal:

- Completion of a special needs portfolio linked to a classroom experience

OR

- Demonstrated progress on the Skills Checklist

OR

- Waiver through the PPT process

Awards of High School Diplomas

Students who complete all graduation requirements shall receive a diploma at the June commencement. Individuals also may satisfy graduation requirements by the satisfactory completion of the following:

1. Successful completion of a summer course or summer courses comparable (as determined by the principal) to the subject(s) in which the student was deficient.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes

10-16(1) Graduation exercises (as amended by PA 96-26, An Act Concerning Graduation Requirements and Readmission and Placement of Older Students).

10-221a High school graduation requirements.

P.A. No. 01-166

Cross Reference:

1075, School Calendar.

Policy 6095: Graduation Requirements

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