

**ADOPTED: February 1993**

**Revised: March 13, 2003, May 26, 2015, June 15, 2017**

## **MSAD 54 Graduation Requirements**

### **A: Credits Required For Graduation**

Students at Skowhegan Area High School must earn a minimum number of credits toward graduation as specified below:

Class of 2018: 21 Credits

Class of 2019 and beyond: 22 Credits

All students must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 courses or approved equivalent at any given time during the year beginning with the class of 2020.

SAHS awards credits for students who complete an approved learning experience. Learning experiences are built on standards and include courses, independent studies, or other approved classes. A credit is not based solely upon the notion of seat time; rather, it is based on the demonstration of mastery of standards and course expectations in a predetermined learning experience.

For Skowhegan Area High School classes of **2018–2020**, the following specific credit requirements remain in effect:

English-4 credits

Math-3 credits

Science-3 credits

Social Studies-4 credits, including US History, Geography and Government

Fine Arts-1 credit

PE-1 credit and Health-.5 credit

Financial Literacy-.5 and Career and College Prep-.5 credit

Electives-3.5 credits for Classes of 2017 and 2018; 4.5 credits beginning with the class of 2019

For Skowhegan Area High School classes of **2021 and beyond**, the following specific credit requirements remain in effect:

22 Total Credits

Health – ½ Credit

Physical Education – 1 Credit

Visual & Performing Arts (formerly Fine Arts) – 1 Credit

Financial Literacy – ½ Credit

Career and College Prep – ½ Credit

### **B: Required Learning Experiences for Graduation**

Commencing with the Class of 2021, all students at Skowhegan Area High School must enroll in four English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies learning

experiences. Enrollment in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science must occur each year.

### **C. Academic Standards Requirements for Graduation**

Commencing with the Class of 2021, all students attending SAHS will demonstrate that they have achieved proficiency in the content-area graduation standards of the Maine Learning Results. Meeting the standard entails demonstrating proficiency in each of the following content areas prior to graduation:

1. English Language Arts
2. Mathematics
3. Social Studies
4. Science and Technology

Class of 2022: Must certify proficiency in the four areas above and one additional content area of the student's choice (four areas noted below).

Class of 2023: Must certify proficiency in the four areas above and two additional content area of the student's choice (four areas noted below).

Class of 2024: Must certify proficiency in the four areas above and three additional content areas of the student's choice (four areas noted below).

Class of 2025: Must certify proficiency in the four areas above and all additional areas noted below:

5. Health Education and Physical Education
6. Visual and Performing Arts
7. World Languages
8. Career and Education Development

### **D: Guiding Principles**

Commencing with the Class of 2021, all students attending SAHS will demonstrate that they have achieved proficiency in the cross-curricular Guiding Principles of the Maine Learning Results.:

1. A clear and effective communicator
2. A self-directed and lifelong learner
3. A creative and practical problem solver
4. A responsible and involved citizen
5. An integrative and informed thinker

### **E: Multiple Pathways**

Students have the opportunity of meeting requirements through multiple pathways. These experiences can happen both within and outside of school.

Options may include, but not limited to, the following:

- Academic courses offered by the school.
- Dual enrollment or early college courses.
- Career and Technical Education Programming
- Online or blended learning options
- Alternative programming

- Apprenticeships, internships, field work, or exchange experiences.
- Independent studies or long-term projects.
- Adult Education

**F: Exceptions**

**1) Special Education Students**

A student with an identified disability, who achieves proficiency in the graduation requirements stated above, as specified by the goals and objectives of the child's individualized education plan, is eligible for a high school diploma.

**2) College Completion**

A SAHS student who satisfactorily completes the freshman year in an accredited degree-granting institution of higher education is eligible to receive a diploma from Skowhegan Area High School.

**3) Career and Technical Education**

For the SAHS graduating class of 2020-2021 and each subsequent graduating class, a student who has satisfactorily completed:

- a SCTC program
- an approved alternate pathway to graduation
- standards in the content areas and the Guiding Principles\*

is eligible to receive a high school diploma in accordance with the phase-in of the previously-stated diploma requirements.

*\* Students enrolled in SCTC courses will have the opportunity to meet academic content indicators and Guiding Principles indicators through a pre-approved pathway.*

**G: Graduation**

A student must complete all Board requirements for a high school diploma to participate in graduation exercises.

*Legal Ref:*

20A M.R.S.A. §4722

CH 127 §7 (Maine Dept. of Ed. Rules)

Legal Reference: 20A M.R.S.A. §4722A(3)(A), §7202(5A); MUSER IX.3(A)(1)(h), VI.2(C)(3)(a)(b) (2015).