ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & MAXIMUM AGE ELIGIBLITY

✹ Requirements for Obtaining a High School Diploma

To earn a high school diploma through the Grossmont Union High School District, all students, including students with disabilities, must:

1. Successfully complete 220 units within the required course of study prescribed by the Grossmont Union High School District (see below for details); and
2. Pass the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) unless the student qualifies for an exemption or waiver (see page 2).

Some schools have additional credit and graduation requirements. Contact your student's high school for further information.

✹ Diploma Course Requirements

The following courses must be passed for a student to receive a high school diploma from the Grossmont Union High School District.

COURSE REQUIREMENT	NUMBER OF SEMESTERS/QUARTERS	CREDITS
American Government	1	5
Economics	1	5
English	8	40
Geography/Humanities 1	1	5
Life Science /Biology	2	10
Math**	6*	30**
Physical Education	4	20
Physical Science	2	10
Technology Foundation	**	**
U.S. History/Am Studies	2	10
Visual & Performing Arts/ Foreign Language	2	10
World History/Culture Geog.	2	10
Plus electives to total		**220 Total Credits**

* *Math Course Requirements*

- ✓ 30 credits of math including a full algebra course (10 credits); and
- ✓ One full course (10 credits) that is not a prerequisite course for algebra such as: Geometry, Algebra II, Calculus, Consumer Math, Accounting, Manufacturing Technology, Electronics Technician, Computer Repair, and Machine Tool Tech.

** Technology Foundation Requirement

Beginning with Class Key 2011, all students must complete a Technology Foundations requirement, which meets the GUHSD Technology Competencies. This requirement may be met by satisfactory completion of appropriate coursework or by direct demonstration of the student's skills and knowledge.

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✹ California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)

Exemption of the CAHSEE Diploma Requirement

Students with an individualized education program (IEP) are exempt from having to pass the CAHSEE as a condition of receiving a high school diploma under Education Code Section 60852.3 provided:

1. The projected date for completion of high school listed on the IEP is on or after July 1, 2009;
2. The graduation plan listed on the IEP includes a diploma course of study; and
3. The high school transcript shows the student has satisfied or is enrolled in a course of study that will satisfy all other state and local requirements for a diploma.

The exemption of having to pass the CAHSEE in order to receive a high school diploma is in effect until June 30, 2015.

Student Participation

- For purposes of fulfilling the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, all students, including students with disabilities, take the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) in the 10th grade, which is the first opportunity to take the test. The only exception is students who participate in the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA).
- Participation in the CAHSEE beyond the 10th grade is voluntary for students with an individualized education program (IEP).

Waiver of CAHSEE Test Passage for Students with Disabilities

In cases where a student with a disability earns a passing score on both the English-Language Arts and Mathematics sections of the *California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)* using one or more assessment **modifications**, a waiver can be granted by the governing board of the Grossmont Union High School District provided the following conditions are met.

1. Copy of the student's current individualized education program (IEP) that specifies the student requires modifications when taking the high school exit examination.
2. Copy of the student's high school transcript showing that the student has either satisfactorily completed or is making satisfactory progress in courses required for a diploma from the Grossmont Union High School District.
3. *CAHSEE* individual score report showing that the student has received the equivalent of passing scores on both the Math and English-Language Arts sections of the high school exit examination while using one or more modifications.

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✹ Certificate of Educational Achievement (CEA)

✹ General Description

- The CEA is an educational alternative to the diploma bound course of study in the Grossmont Union High School District. This alternative course of study emphasizes basic academics, social skills development and vocational (career) training.
- Students must earn a minimum of 220 credits within the course of study prescribed by the Certificate of Educational Achievement (see below).
- Passing the high school exit examination is not a requirement to earn a Certificate of Educational Achievement (CEA).
- The decision to seek a Certificate of Educational Achievement must be documented on the individualized education program (IEP).
- Students may pursue a Certificate of Educational Achievement along with a high school diploma (see page 1 for description of diploma requirements).

✹ Course of Study

To earn a Certificate of Educational Achievement (CEA), students must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Complete **220 high school credits**
- Complete the following **academic requirements**:
  1. 20 credits of math, including Consumer Math
  2. 20 credits of English
  3. 15 credits of Social Science (e.g., Geography, World History, U.S. History)
  4. 10 credits of Science (e.g., Biology, Physical Science)
- Complete the following **vocational training requirements**:
  1. Technology Foundations Requirement (see Diploma Requirements)
  2. 15 credits of vocational training through ROP, on campus work exploration, or other community vocational training courses
  3. 5 credits of Work Experience and/or On-Job Training
- Complete the following **social skills requirements**:
  1. 5 credits of Life Management or On Your Own (or equivalent)
  2. 30 hours of direct volunteer experience or completion of a community service research project
  3. 10 credits of civics/citizenship (American Government and Economics)

The remaining 90 credits needed to meet the graduation requirement of 220 total credits are to be prescribed by the student's school guidance team, including the parent and student.

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Certificate of Completion

- A Certificate of Completion is an alternative to the high school diploma that requires the student to complete a course of study of 220 credits prescribed by the individualized education program (IEP) team.
- At graduation, students receive a Certificate of Completion in recognition of their accomplishments.
- Passing the high school exit examination is not a requirement to receive a Certificate of Completion.
- The decision to seek a Certificate of Completion must be documented on the individualized education program (IEP).

Rights with Certificate of Educational Achievement or Completion

Students who earn a Certificate of Educational Achievement or Certificate of Completion can:

- Participate in their school's graduation ceremony and related activities.
- Return to the Grossmont Union High School District to continue their education until age 22 (see *FAPE and Maximum Age Requirement* below).
- Enroll in a California Community College beginning at age 18.

FAPE & Maximum Age Eligibility

Students with an individualized education program (IEP) are entitled to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE), including special education and related services, through age 21, unless they earn a regular high school diploma before that time. The following rules apply when determining if a student has exceeded the maximum age eligibility.

- Students who turn 22 between January and June 30 must exit no later than June 30, unless the IEP includes extended school year (ESY) services.
- Students who turn 22 between July 1 and September 30 must exit no later than June 30 of the previous school year, unless the IEP includes extended school year (ESY) services.
- Students who turn 22 in October, November, or December must exit no later than December 31, unless the student would otherwise complete his or her individualized education program at the end of the current fiscal year.

Additional Information

More information about Grossmont Union High School District special education services and resources for parents can be found on the GUHSD Special Education Website:
http://www.guhsd.net/index.php/departments/educational-services/special-ed