

KANSAS ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (K.A.R.)

Agency 91

Kansas State Department of Education

Article 31.—Accreditation

91-31-35. Graduation requirements. (a) Each local board of education shall adopt a written policy specifying that pupils are eligible for graduation only upon completion of at least the following requirements:

- (1) Four units of English language arts, which shall include reading, writing, literature, communication, and grammar. The building administrator may waive up to one unit of this requirement if the administrator determines that a pupil can profit more by taking another subject;
- (2) three units of history and government, which shall include world history; United States history; United States government, including the Constitution of the United States; concepts of economics and geography; and, except as otherwise provided in S.B.R. 91-31-32, a course of instruction in Kansas history and government;
- (3) three units of science, which shall include physical, biological, and earth and space science concepts and which shall include at least one unit as a laboratory course;
- (4) three units of mathematics, including algebraic and geometric concepts;
- (5) one unit of physical education, which shall include health and which may include safety, first aid, or physiology. This requirement shall be waived if the school district is provided with either of the following:
 - (A) A statement by a licensed physician that a pupil is mentally or physically incapable of participating in a regular or modified physical education program; or
 - (B) a statement, signed by a lawful custodian of the pupil, indicating that the requirement is contrary to the religious teachings of the pupil;
- (6) one unit of fine arts, which may include art, music, dance, theatre, forensics, and other similar studies selected by a local board of education; and
- (7) six units of elective courses.

(b) A minimum of 21 units of credit shall be required for graduation.

(c) Any local board of education may increase the number of units of credit required for graduation.

Any additional requirements of the local board of education that increase the number of units of credit required for graduation shall apply to those students who will enter the ninth grade in the school year following the effective date of the additional requirement.

(d) Unless more stringent requirements are specified by existing local policy, the graduation requirements established by this regulation shall apply to those students who enter the ninth grade in the school year following the effective date of this regulation and to each subsequent class of students.

This regulation shall be effective on and after July 1, 2005. (Authorized by and implementing Article 6, Section 2(a) of the Kansas Constitution; effective July 1, 2005.)