

BCHS Students Scheduled to Graduate in 2020

Those students that were on target to graduate when schools closed on March 13, 2020, will graduate pending satisfactory completion of course objectives. Final learning modules will cover remaining instructional material not covered prior to March 13, 2020. Students not on target to graduate on March 13, 2020, will be given every opportunity to make up prior work and complete instruction assigned after March 13, 2020.

The BCHS graduation requirement for community service hours will be waived for the class of 2020.

Per the VDOE, the following graduation requirements will also be waived:

Students Scheduled to Graduate with the 2019-2020 Cohort

The Superintendent will provide as much flexibility as is prudent and allowable by the *Code of Virginia* for those students currently enrolled and graduating with the 2019-2020 cohort. Flexibility provisions will need to consider students facing the following barriers to graduation.

The following graduation requirements can be waived based on authority granted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction per Executive Order Fifty-One (2020):

- Students currently enrolled in a course for which they need a verified credit in order to graduate;
- Students who have previously been awarded standard credit, but have not earned the associated verified credit;
- Students who have not completed the student-selected test;
- Students who are currently enrolled in or have previously completed a course leading to a CTE credential necessary for a Standard Diploma but have not yet earned the credential;
- Students who have not completed a United States and Virginia history course*;
- Students who have not completed a fine or performing arts or career and technical education course*;
- Students in the second of sequential courses*;
- Students who have not completed an economics and personal finance course*.

*Some credit-based graduation requirements are still provided for in the *Code of Virginia*. While these cannot be waived outright, these can be addressed by providing new instruction or pursuing alternate pathways to the 140-clock-hour requirement based on revised Board of Education's *Emergency Guidelines for Local Alternatives for Awarding Standard Units of Credit* (pending approval on April 2, 2020).

The following graduation requirements will require action by the General Assembly in order to be waived:

- Students who have not completed training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and
- Students who have not completed a virtual course.

Students currently enrolled in a course for which standard credit is required should be awarded that credit if they were successfully completing the course as of March 13, 2020. For students who were not passing a class at the time of the school closure, the VDOE recommends that these students be provided with opportunities to demonstrate competency so that a standard credit may be awarded for graduation. Nothing in this guidance prevents a school division from requiring new instruction for these students, especially if a majority of the standards in any given course had not been completed.

Some students may not have been enrolled in all of the standard credits required for graduation. In these cases, school divisions may offer distance or remote course opportunities to help them graduate on time, so long as the student completes these extra courses.

Students may not have completed some of the graduation requirements listed with asterisks by March 13, 2020; schools should make efforts to complete those requirements with students during the closure before utilizing the waiver for the student.

Students enrolled in CTE courses that may have state licensing requirements established by regulatory boards have been provided with flexibility that will be included in the [COVID-19 FAQ](#) listed on the VDOE website and updated as additional information becomes available. This would include certain courses in trade and industrial education and health and medical sciences.

BCHS Students Scheduled to Graduate in 2021 to 2024

Those students that were on target to pass courses in which they were enrolled on March 13, 2020, will be allowed to advance to the next course in the sequence upon successful completion of the final learning modules. Specific learning objectives will be identified that were not taught prior to March 13, 2020. Learning modules will be created to cover these learning objectives to allow students the opportunity to receive credit for the courses in which they are currently enrolled. There will be a focus on essential knowledge that is critical for success in subsequent coursework. All instruction will be designed in a manner that insures equitable access and opportunity for success for all students.

Ten hours of community service will be waived from the 50- hour graduation requirement. This is for any student enrolled in grades 8 – 11 during the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Upon successful completion of the course per standards set by the teacher, students will receive a locally awarded verified credit. Verification standards required by a teacher may include any one, or a combination, of the following: record of completion of teacher assignments indicating the requisite level of course knowledge, an end-of-year summative assessment, a project-based assessment, or a portfolio.

Students that do not successfully complete the coursework necessary to pass the course, will be provided the opportunity to enroll in and complete the associated Virtual Virginia or Grad Point course during the subsequent summer and/or the fall semester.

STANDARD CREDIT:

Awarded upon successful completion of course requirements.

The school division's plan to address missing content should not prevent student promotion to the next grade level or next sequential course. While the student is completing missing content, the VDOE recommends that schools denote, through any means allowable in the student information system, the credits on the transcript with an asterisk or note explaining that the asterisk or note will be removed upon completion of the missing content. For purposes of documenting graduation credits, the student should receive the standard credit with the same asterisk or note until the missing content is completed. For students who were not passing a class at the time of the school closure, the VDOE recommends that these students be provided with opportunities to demonstrate competency so that a standard credit may be awarded.

VERIFIED CREDIT:

Verified credits can be awarded in accordance with 8VAC20-131-110 in the Board of Education's *Regulations Establishing Standards for the Accreditation of Public Schools (also known as the SOA or Standards of Accreditation)*. A student currently enrolled in a high school credit-bearing course eligible for a verified credit during the 2019-2020 school year and who has received the standard unit of credit may be awarded a locally-awarded verified credit. For these classes only, the requirement to attempt the associated SOL end-of-course test twice and score within the 375-399 scaled score range in order to earn the locally awarded verified credits will be waived. This flexibility applies to students seeking either a Standard or Advanced Diploma. As a result, the locally-awarded verified credits awarded to students affected by the 2019-2020 extended school closures **will not count toward the cap on locally-awarded verified credits** (waived from the SOA per Executive Order Fifty-One (2020)). Students eligible for a special permission credit accommodation should continue to use the IEP/504 process. For students who elect to earn a verified credit by taking the associated SOL end-of-course assessment, the spring 2020 testing window will be extended.