PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

LCB File No. R099-23

November 20, 2023

EXPLANATION - Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1, 3 and 9, NRS 385.080; § 2, NRS 385.080, 385.114, 388.360 and 389.021;
§ 4, NRS 385.080, 385.114, 389.018, as amended by section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 241, chapter 201, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 146, NRS 389.021 and 390.600; §§ 5, 6 and 10, NRS 385.080, 385.114, 389.018, as amended by section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 241, chapter 201, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 1172, and section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 146, and NRS 390.600; § 7, NRS 385.080, 385.114, 389.021 and 390.600; § 8, NRS 385.080 and 385.114.

A REGULATION relating to education; revising certain eligibility requirements for enrollment in an adult high school program; revising the courses of study required for graduation from a public high school; revising requirements for the receipt of certain diplomas; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Department of Education to adopt regulations that require the board of trustees of a school district that offers courses for an adult to earn a high school diploma to allow enrollment in such courses by a person who has not received a high school diploma and is at least: (1) 18 years of age or is eligible for participation in the statewide program of education for incarcerated persons; or (2) 17 years of age and has attended at least 4 years of high school. (NRS 392.0175) Existing regulations prescribe requirements for enrollment in an adult high school program designed to enable an adult to earn a high school diploma. (NAC 387.190) **Section 1** of this regulation revises these requirements by authorizing a person who meets the statutory requirements for enrollment in courses for an adult to earn a high school diploma to enroll in an adult high school program. **Section 8** of this regulation makes a conforming change related to the revised requirements for enrollment in an adult high school program.

Existing law requires a pupil enrolled in a public high school to enroll in a certain number of credits in certain subject areas. (NRS 389.018) Existing law requires the State Board of Education to prescribe and enforce the courses of study for the public schools of this State. (NRS 385.114) Existing law additionally requires the State Board to adopt regulations that prescribe the criteria for a pupil to receive a standard high school diploma and provides that a pupil with a

disability who does not satisfy the requirements for receipt of a standard high school diploma may receive an alternative diploma or an adjusted diploma under certain circumstances. (NRS 390.600) During the 2017 Legislative Session, the Legislature enacted Senate Bill No. 249 (S.B. 249), which, with limited exception, required a pupil enrolled in a public high school to enroll in: (1) one-half unit of credit in American government; (2) two units of credit in American history, world history or world geography; and (3) one-half unit of credit in economics. (NRS 389.018, as amended by section 2 of Senate Bill No. 249, chapter 456, Statutes of Nevada 2017, at page 2929) Additionally, during the 2023 Legislative Session, the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill No. 274 (A.B. 274), which replaced the requirement that a pupil must enroll in one-half unit of credit in economics with a requirement that a pupil must enroll in one-half unit of credit in economics and financial literacy. (NRS 389.018, as amended by section 1.5 of Assembly Bill No. 274, chapter 29, Statutes of Nevada 2023, at page 146) Existing regulations prescribe requirements for the receipt of certain diplomas. (NAC 390.430, 390.440, 390.445, 390.470) Sections 4-7 of this regulation update these requirements to comport with the revisions made by S.B. 249 and A.B. 274 and make various other changes to the requirements prescribed by the State Board for the receipt of certain diplomas. Sections 4, 5 and 7 additionally clarify that a course of study in computer education and technology includes, without limitation, a course of study in computer science. Section 10 of this regulation makes the revisions in sections 4-7 apply retroactively to any diploma issued on or after July 1, 2022.

Section 9 of this regulation removes redundant provisions related to the requirements for an adult standard diploma. Section 3 of this regulation makes a conforming change related to the waiver of credits required for an adult standard diploma.

Existing regulations prescribe the courses of study for graduation from a public high school. (NAC 389.450) Section 2 of this regulation revises the courses of study prescribed by the State Board for graduation from a public high school to comport with the revisions made by S.B. 249 and A.B. 274. Section 2 also: (1) removes personal fitness from the list of prescribed courses; and (2) replaces a reference to basic mathematics with a reference to discrete mathematics on the list of prescribed courses.

Section 1. NAC 387.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

387.190 1. A person who [:

(a) Is at least 18 years of age or who] meets the requirements [for participation in a program

of education for incarcerated persons established pursuant to NAC 388H.040;

(b) Has not received his or her high school diploma; and

- (c) Is not currently enrolled in a high school,

prescribed by NRS 392.0175 may be enrolled as a pupil in an adult high school program

designed to enable him or her to obtain a diploma.

2. A person who is at least 16 years of age but less than 18 years of age and who participates in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school pursuant to NRS 388.537 may enroll in an adult high school program with the approval of the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled only for the purpose of preparing to take a high school equivalency assessment.

3. Before commencing an adult high school program, a school district must apply to the Department for permission to conduct the program. The application must be made on a form provided by the Department and include the:

(a) Name of the course to be taught; and

(b) Proposed beginning and ending dates for each class.

4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall review each application to operate an adult high school program submitted to the Department and approve or deny the application. If the application is denied by the Superintendent, the school district may appeal the decision of the Superintendent to the State Board of Education. The State Board may approve or deny the application for an adult high school program upon appeal.

5. An application that has been approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction or the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection 4 remains in effect for 5 years after the date of approval. The board of trustees of a school district shall update its plan to operate an adult high school program at least once annually if a substantive change is made to the plan.

6. A class that is part of an approved program may begin or end at any time during the school year.

7. A school district that offers an adult high school program shall offer a sufficient number of required and elective courses for a pupil enrolled in the program to obtain the credits

necessary to receive an adult standard diploma. Such required and elective courses must include the content identified in the school district's approved curriculum.

Sec. 2. NAC 389.450 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.450 In addition to the courses of study required in chapter 389 of NRS, the State Board of Education prescribes the following courses of study for graduation from a public high school:

- 1. Arts and humanities, or career and technical education;
- 2. Health education;
- 3. English;
- 4. Mathematics, which may include the following courses of study:
- (a) [Basic] *Discrete* mathematics;
- (b) Mathematics for everyday living;
- (c) Prealgebra;
- (d) Algebra I;
- (e) Geometry;
- (f) Algebra II;
- (g) Trigonometry;
- (h) Analytic geometry;
- (i) Precalculus;
- (j) Calculus; and
- (k) Probability and statistics;
- 5. Physical education ; [or personal fitness;]
- 6. Science, which may include the following courses of study:
- (a) Life science;

- (b) Earth science;
- (c) Physical science;
- (d) Environmental science; and
- (e) General science;
- 7. Computer education and technology, for which at least 50 percent of the instructional

time for the course is dedicated to computer science and computational thinking; [and]

- 8. Social studies, which may include the following courses of study:
- (a) American government;
- (b) American history;
- (c) Economics and financial literacy;
- (d) World geography; and
- (e) World history; and

9. Academic achievement, career exploration, and personal and social development.

Sec. 3. NAC 390.115 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 390.115 1. Any person who:
- (a) Is 17 years of age or older;
- (b) Has not graduated from a high school in the United States which is accredited by a

regional association; and

(c) Is not currently enrolled in a high school,

 \rightarrow is eligible to take an assessment to determine the person's high school equivalency if he or she otherwise complies with the provisions of NRS 390.055. No minimum period of residence in this State is required of an applicant before he or she takes an assessment.

2. The board of trustees of a school district may, upon request and for good cause shown, grant permission to take a high school equivalency assessment to a person who resides in the school district and who is at least 16 years of age but less than 17 years of age if the person satisfies the requirements of subsection 3 of NRS 390.055.

3. A school district shall adhere to the policies of the high school equivalency assessment service that the high school equivalency assessment must not be used as part of a high school program or used as a high school exit examination.

4. A school district shall not allow a person who passes a high school equivalency assessment to waive the units of credit required for a standard high school diploma.

5. A person who [is at least 18 years of age and who passes a high school equivalency assessment] seeks an adult standard diploma may, in accordance with NAC 390.500, waive the units of credit required for an adult standard diploma.

[6. A person who is at least 17 years of age but less than 18 years of age and who is enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537 may, in accordance with NAC 390.500, waive the units of credit required for an adult standard diploma.]

Sec. 4. NAC 390.430 is hereby amended to read as follows:

390.430 1. To receive an advanced diploma evidencing graduation from high school, a pupil must, in addition to meeting the criteria prescribed pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 390.600, have:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection [3,] 4, earned a minimum of 18 units of credit for required courses and 6 units of credit for elective courses for a total of at least 24 units of credit; and

(b) Maintained at least a 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, weighted or unweighted, for all units of credit applicable toward graduation.

2. **[The]** *For a pupil in the graduating class of 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027 or 2028,* units for the required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

Minimum **Required** Course Number of Units Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps [Computer education and technology1/2] World history or world geography......1

Minimum

Number of Units

TOTAL: 18

3. For a pupil in the graduating class of 2029 or any graduating class thereafter, units for the required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

Minimum

Required Course

Required Course

Number of Units

American government
American history
Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps or
career and technical education1
Computer education and technology
Economics and financial literacy
English, including reading, composition and writing
Health education
Mathematics (including Algebra II or higher)
Physical education
Science
World history or world geography1

Required Course

Minimum Number of Units

TOTAL: 18

4. If a pupil satisfactorily completes a course of study in computer education and technology during the [sixth, seventh or] eighth grade, the pupil is not required to take the course of study in computer education and technology and must only earn a minimum of 17 1/2 units of credit for required courses pursuant to subsection 2 [.] or 3, as applicable.

5. The course of study in computer education and technology *described in subsection 4* must be taught for at least one semester or trimester, as applicable, or the equivalent, and must not be taught as part of another course of study. [Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring a school district to offer a course in computer education and technology as part of the eurriculum of a middle school.]

6. For the purposes of this section, a course of study in computer education and technology includes, without limitation, a course of study in computer science.

Sec. 5. NAC 390.440 is hereby amended to read as follows:

390.440 1. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, to receive a standard diploma evidencing graduation from high school, a pupil in the graduating class of 2018, 2019, 2020 or 2021 must, in addition to meeting the criteria prescribed pursuant to NRS 390.600, have earned a minimum of 15 units of credit for required courses and 7 1/2 units of credit for elective courses

for a total of at least 22 1/2 units of credit. The units for the required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

Minimum

Required Course

Number of Units

American government
American history
Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (Level
III or Level IV) or career and technical education1
English, including reading, composition and writing
Health education
Mathematics
Physical education
Computer education and technology
Science

______<u>TOTAL:</u>_____15

2.] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, to receive a standard diploma evidencing graduation from high school, a pupil in the graduating class of [2022] 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027 or [any graduating class thereafter] 2028 must, in addition to meeting the criteria prescribed pursuant to NRS 390.600, have earned a minimum of 17 units of credit for required courses and

6 units of credit for elective courses for a total of at least 23 units of credit. The units for the required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

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Number of Units

American government
American history 1
[Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (Level
III or Level IV) or career and technical education
College and career ready flex credit as described in subsection 5 2
Computer education and technology
<i>Economics</i>
English, including reading, composition and writing
Health education
Mathematics
Physical education
[Computer education and technology
Science
World history or world geography

TOTAL: 17

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, to receive a standard diploma evidencing graduation from high school, a pupil in the graduating class of 2029 or any graduating class thereafter must, in addition to meeting the criteria prescribed pursuant to NRS 390.600, have earned a minimum of 17 units of credit for required courses and 6 units of credit for elective courses for a total of at least 23 units of credit. The units for the required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

Minimum

Required Course

Number of Units

American government	
American history	1
College and career ready flex credit as described in subsection 5	2
Computer education and technology	
Economics and financial literacy	1/2
English, including reading, composition and writing	4
Health education	
Mathematics	3
Physical education	2
Science	2
World history or world geography	1

TOTAL: 17

3. If a pupil satisfactorily completes a course of study in computer education and technology during the [sixth, seventh or] eighth grade, the pupil is not required to take the course of study in computer education and technology and must only earn a minimum of [:

 (a) If the pupil is required to meet the requirements of subsection 1, 14 1/2 units of credit for required courses pursuant to subsection 1.

(b) If the pupil is required to meet the requirements of subsection 2,] 16 1/2 units of credit for required courses pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 [.], as applicable.

4. The course of study in computer education and technology described in subsection 3 must be taught for at least one semester or trimester, as applicable, or the equivalent, and must not be taught as part of another course of study.

5. The course of study in college and career ready flex credit required by subsection *1 or* 2, *as applicable,* must include a:

(a) Level II or **[Level III]** *higher* course of study in a *career and technical education* program area prescribed pursuant to NAC 389.803;

(b) Fourth year of mathematics, which must include Algebra II or **[another course which follows such a course of study;]** *higher;*

(c) [Third] Fourth year of social studies; or

(d) Third year of science.

6. [Nothing in] For the purposes of this section [shall be construed as requiring a school district to offer] a course of study in computer education and technology [as part of the curriculum of] includes, without limitation, a [middle school.] course of study in computer science.

Sec. 6. NAC 390.445 is hereby amended to read as follows:

390.445 1. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, in addition to meeting the criteria prescribed by paragraph (b) of subsection 4 of NRS 390.600, to receive an alternative diploma evidencing graduation from high school, a pupil in the graduating class of 2019, 2020 or 2021 must have earned a minimum of 15.0 units of credit for required courses and 7.5 units of credit for elective courses for a total of at least 22.5 units of credit. The units of credit for required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

Minimu	n
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Number of Units

Required Course

Social studies	2.0
Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (Level	
III or Level IV) or career and technical education	1.0
English language arts	4.0
Health education	0.5
Mathematics	3.0
Physical education	2.0
Use of computers	0.5
Science	2.0
TOTAL	<u> </u>

2.] Except as otherwise provided in subsection [4,] 3, to receive an alternative diploma evidencing graduation from high school, in addition to meeting the criteria prescribed by paragraph (b) of subsection 4 of NRS 390.600, a pupil in the graduating class of 2022 or any graduating class thereafter must have earned a minimum of 17.0 units of credit for required courses and 6.0 units of credit for elective courses for a total of at least 23.0 units of credit. The units of credit for required courses must be earned in accordance with the following table:

Minimum Number of Units

Required Course

[Social studies
Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps
[(Level III or Level IV)] or career and technical education
College and career ready flex credit as described in subsection $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} 2$ 2.0
English language arts4.0
Health education0.5
Mathematics
Physical education
[Use of computers
Science
Social studies2.0
Use of computers

TOTAL 17.0

[3.] 2. The course of study in college and career ready flex credit required by subsection [2] *1* must include a:

(a) Level II or *[Level III] higher* course of study in a program area prescribed pursuant to NAC 389.803;

(b) Fourth year of mathematics;

(c) Third year of social studies; or

(d) Third year of science.

[4.] 3. If a pupil satisfactorily completes a course of study in the use of computers during the sixth, seventh or eighth grade, the pupil is not required to take the course of study in the use of computers and must only earn a minimum of [-:

(a) If the pupil is required to meet the requirements of subsection 1, 14.5 units of credit for required courses pursuant to subsection 1; or

(b) If the pupil is required to meet the requirements of subsection 2,] 16.5 units of credit for required courses pursuant to subsection [2.

5.] **1**.

4. The length of the course of study in the use of computers described in subsection [4] 3 must be at least one semester or trimester, or the equivalent thereof, and the course must not be taught as part of another course of study.

[6.] 5. Academic content for the courses required by subsection 1 [or 2, as applicable,] must be based on grade-level content standards that are aligned with the alternate assessment

prescribed by the State Board pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 4 of NRS 390.600.

Sec. 7. NAC 390.470 is hereby amended to read as follows:

390.470 1. A school district may award an adult standard diploma to a person who:

(a) Withdrew from high school before the person's graduation and was not eligible to graduate with his or her class, or participated in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537;

(b) Has earned, in high school, in an adult high school program or in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537, or waived, the units of credit required in subsection 2 [;] or 3, as *applicable;* and

(c) **[Is 18 years of age or older at]** *Meets* the **[time of the award]** *requirements prescribed by NRS 392.0175* or is 17 years of age but less than 18 years of age and participates in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school pursuant to NRS 388.537.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection [3,] 4, the units of credit which a person *in a cohort which graduates before July 1, 2028*, must have earned or waived to be qualified to receive an adult standard diploma are a total of 13 units for required courses and a total of 7 1/2 units for elective courses. [The] *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, the* person must have earned or waived his or her units for the required courses in accordance with the following table:

Minimum

Number of Units

American government
American history1
[Arts and humanities, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (Level
III or Level IV) or career and technical education1]
Computer education and technology
Economics
English4
Health education
Mathematics
Science
[Computer education and technology
World history or world geography1

TOTAL: 13

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the units of credit which a person in a cohort which graduates on or after July 1, 2028, must have earned or waived to be qualified to receive an adult standard diploma are a total of 13 units for required courses and a total of 7 1/2 units for elective courses. The person must have earned or waived his or her units for the required courses in accordance with the following table:

Minimum

Required Course

Number of Units

American government	
American history	1
Computer education and technology	
Economics and financial literacy	
English	4
Health education	
Mathematics	
Science	2
World history or world geography	1

TOTAL: 13

4. If a person demonstrates a competency in computer education and technology, the person is not required to complete the course in computer education and technology and must earn or waive a total of 12 1/2 units in required courses.

5. A person in a cohort which graduates before July 1, 2028 who has earned or waived 1 unit of credit in American government is exempt from the requirement that the person must earn or waive 1/2 unit of credit in economics.

6. For the purposes of this section, a course of study in computer education and technology includes, without limitation, a course of study in computer science.

Sec. 8. NAC 390.480 is hereby amended to read as follows:

390.480 1. Units of credit earned by a person through an adult high school program may be applied toward meeting the requirements for an adult standard diploma only if the course in which the units were earned was:

(a) Taught in a school district of this State; or

(b) Equivalent to a regular course offered in the high school where the diploma will be issued, and the course is approved by the principal of the high school for that purpose.

2. As used in this section, "adult high school program" means instruction or training provided at or below the level of a secondary school for persons who:

(a) [Are at least 18 years of age and who have not completed high school.] Meet the requirements prescribed by NRS 392.0175.

(b) Are 17 years of age but less than 18 years of age and participate in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school pursuant to NRS 388.537.

(c) Are 16 years of age and authorized to attend an adult high school program pursuant to NAC 390.117.]

Sec. 9. NAC 390.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

390.500 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who [is 18 years of age or older and who] seeks an adult standard diploma may waive units of credit for language arts, mathematics, science and social studies by taking a high school equivalency assessment in those subjects. [A person who seeks an adult standard diploma who is at least 17 years of age but less than 18 years of age and who is enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537 may waive units of credit pursuant to this section.]

2. The maximum number of credits which may be waived in the areas of language arts, mathematics and science must be based on the number of credits previously earned which meet the minimum requirements for course content outlined in NAC 389.450 to 389.511, inclusive, and the credits waived upon the completion of a high school equivalency assessment selected pursuant to NRS 390.055.

3. Credits in elective courses may be waived only in the area of social studies. The maximum number of credits which may be waived in the area of social studies must be based on a high school equivalency assessment selected pursuant to NRS 390.055.

4. The following tables set forth the scores which a person must achieve on a high school equivalency assessment to waive credits in required and elective courses and the corresponding number of units which may be waived:

	Designation of	For Score of	For Score of
Subject	Test	450 to 499.9	500 or higher
English	I and IV (average)	2	4
Mathematics	V	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	II	1	2

General Educational Development Test (2002 Series)

Maximum Number of Units

General Educational Development Test (2014 Series)

Maximum Number of Units

	Designation of	For Score of	For Score of
Subject	Test	145 to 157	158 or higher
Language Arts	Ι	2	4
Mathematics	II	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	IV	1	2

HiSET Exam (2014 Series)

Maximum Number of Units

	Designation of	For Score of	For Score of
Subject	Test	10 or 11	12 or higher
Language Arts	I and V (average)	2	4
Mathematics	II	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	IV	1	2

Test Assessing Secondary Completion (2014 Series)

Maximum Number of Units

	Designation of	For Score of	For Score of
Subject	Test	500 to 529	530 or higher

Language Arts	I and V (average)	2	4
Mathematics	Π	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	IV	1	2

Sec. 10. This regulation is hereby amended by adding thereto the following transitory language which has the force and effect of law but which will not be codified in the Nevada Administrative Code:

The amendatory provisions of sections 4 to 7, inclusive, this regulation relating to the units of credit which a person must have earned or waived to be qualified to receive a diploma apply retroactively to any diploma issued on or after July 1, 2022.