

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CHURCHILL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**STANDARD AND ADJUSTED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DIPLOMAS  
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities who fulfill the following requirements may graduate from high school with a standard or an adjusted diploma. The type of diploma shall be declared at the 9th grade and reviewed annually as a part of each student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

**A. STANDARD DIPLOMA**

Students shall complete all of the requirements for the standard high school graduation diploma outlined in Section I of this Appendix. The educational needs of the students may require specially designed instruction, accommodations and/or modifications, or the use of permissible accommodations as outlined by the Nevada Department of Education and determined through the IEP process for the administration of the Nevada High School Proficiency Exams. Accommodations that are appropriate shall be outlined in the student's Individualized Education Program that is developed in accordance with the Nevada Administrative Code 388.001 – 388.450.

**B. ADJUSTED DIPLOMA**

Students shall complete all of the graduation requirements outlined in their Individualized Education Program. The requirements will be different from those for a standard high school graduation diploma since the educational needs of the students requires specially designed graduation requirements in addition to specially designed instruction and environment. The standards of proficiency required for an adjusted diploma and the methods of measuring that proficiency shall be outlined in the student's Individualized Educational Program that is developed in accordance with the Nevada Administrative Code 388-01 – 388.450. Students who graduate with an adjusted diploma have the right to return to a public education setting as long as they continue to be eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as outlined and in accordance with Nevada Administrative Code 388.001 -388.450 until their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday in attempt to graduate with a standard diploma.

**CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE**

Students who have reached 17 years of age and have successfully completed all of the requirements for a standard or an adjusted diploma except for the successful completion of the Nevada High School Proficiency Examinations may be given a certificate of attendance in lieu of a high school graduation diploma.

It is the position of the Churchill County School District that all special education students have access to participation in the Standard High School Diploma Program and in the Nevada Proficiency Examination Program, and that procedures be established in the district to insure this access.

The decision regarding the participation of any special education student in the Standard High School Diploma Program and the Nevada Proficiency Examination Program:

-shall be made on an individual basis,

-shall be an informed decision by the Individual Education Program (IEP) Committee,  
and

-shall be subject to established due process procedures.

1. This position places the decision regarding students with disabilities participation in the hands of the individual student's IEP Committee for two reasons. First, these Committees are most familiar with the students' strengths and weaknesses, and they, therefore, can match the educational plan to the individual's curriculum objectives. Second, IEP Committees, which include the student, the student's parent(s), teacher(s) and possibly the counselor, have the general authority to ~~set~~ determine the student's educational path and evaluation procedures.
2. The IEP Committee will determine which high school diploma, standard or adjusted, the student will pursue. The IEP Committee shall outline the course of study and graduation requirements for students seeking an adjusted diploma. This determination will be included in the individual's IEP and will be reviewed annually as part of each student's Individualized Educational Program.
3. It is important that parents are informed that to alter the determination not to participate in the standard high school program leading to a standard diploma during the junior or senior year would place the student in the difficult position of being required to complete required courses in a very short amount of time.
4. Should the IEP Committee agree that a special education student should participate in the standard diploma program; these students shall complete the required courses and be judged on the same basis as their peers. This does not preclude special education students from receiving specially designed instruction, accommodations, modifications, and related services as determined by the IEP.
5. Special education students, taking Language Arts (English and/or Reading), mathematics and history in resource rooms shall be granted regular credit in these subjects, as long as the teacher providing instructions considered highly qualified in the subject area and content delivered is aligned to the state standards. Any other credit, in a special education resource room, shall be reflected on the IEP if the IEP calls for it.

REVIEWED: 6/15/07, 6/30/08, 6/15/09

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LEGAL REFERENCE: Nevada Administrative Code 388.001 – 388.450

REVIEW RESPONSIBILITY: Director of Special Services