

## Graduation Requirements

A minimum of twenty-four (24) units of credit aligned to the state academic content and performance standards are required for graduation. A student may receive a high school Diploma of Excellence after having demonstrated accomplishment of the standards or a portfolio of standards based indicators in mathematics, reading and language arts, writing, social studies, and science adopted by the Secretary of Public Education. A student may also receive the Seal of Bilingual-Biliteracy on the Diploma of Excellence and have it noted on the school transcript by studying and attaining proficiency in a language other than English.

If a student exits from the school system at the end of grade twelve (12) without having satisfied the above requirements, the student shall receive an appropriate state certificate indicating the number of credits earned and the grade completed. If within five (5) years after a student exits from the school system, the student satisfies the requirements listed, the student may receive a high school Diploma of Excellence. Graduation requirements shall not be changed for a student entering the ninth grade from the requirements specified in law at the time the student enrolled in the ninth grade.

Graduation requirements may be met as follows:

- By successful completion of subject area course requirements.
- By mastery of the standards or a portfolio of standards based indicators adopted by the Secretary of Public Education and other competency requirements for the subject as determined by the Board of Education. (This includes scoring at least a 3 on the PARCC assessment in Algebra II and English Language Arts III and meeting PED set cut scores on End of Course assessments in Social Studies, Writing, and Science and/or scoring at least a 3 on the NM Science Standards Based Assessment during the 11<sup>th</sup> grade year to show proficiency in Science.
- By earning credits through correspondence courses that meet graduation requirements and/or by passing appropriate courses at the college or university level if the courses are determined to meet standards and criteria established by the Board of Education.

### Course and Unit Requirements

English (grammar, nonfiction writing and literature emphasis)	4.0 Units
Mathematics (one (1) equal to Algebra II or higher. Financial Literacy course may meet one of the required units)	4.0 Units
Science (two (2) with a laboratory component)	3.0 Units
United States History and Geography	1.0 Unit
World History and Geography	1.0 Unit
U.S. Government and Economics (.5 Units each)	1.0 Unit
New Mexico History	0.5 Unit
Physical Education, Marching Band, or NMAA Sanctioned interscholastic sport	1.0 Unit
Career cluster course, workplace readiness or language	1.0 Unit
Health Education	0.5 Unit
Electives including student service learning	7.0 Units
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.0 Units</b>

*(Also see Portales Municipal School Board Policy IKF—I-7350)*