

Part 3 Chapter 36: Graduation Requirements

Rule 36.1 Graduation Requirements (Repealed 7/2012)

Rule 36.2 Policies for Subject Area Testing. Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, students shall not be required to pass any end-of-course Subject Area Test in a course for which the student earns or receives credit in a Mississippi public school as a requirement for graduation. Student performance on the end-of-course Subject Area Test shall be considered, along with the overall course grade based on the Concordance Table as outlined in State Board Policy 3803.

Archived Information Regarding State Board Policy 3801 for Students Graduation Prior to School Year 2014-2015:

Enrollment in a non-public school/program (to include, but not limited to, private schools, parochial schools, home schools, virtual schools, summer schools, independent study/correspondence programs, etc.) shall not be used to circumvent participation in the

Mississippi Statewide Assessment System or students meeting the graduation requirements outlined in this policy.

1. Students will not be required to pass any end-of-course Subject Area Test in a course for which the student earns or receives credit (i.e., course completed as recorded on an official transcript) in a Mississippi public school prior to the 2001-2002 school year. (MS Code 37-16-7)
2. Any student enrolled in a Mississippi public school who concurrently earns a Carnegie unit for any course which includes a required end-of-course Subject Area Testing Program (SATP) exam from a non-public school (to include, but not limited to: private school, parochial school, home school, virtual school, summer school, or independent study / correspondence program, etc.) must take and pass the SATP exam in order to earn a standard diploma.
3. Students entering a Mississippi public school will not be required to pass any end-of-course Subject Area Test in a course for which the school accepts credit earned by the student in a public school of another state as fulfilling the requirements for a Mississippi high school diploma.
 - a. Effective with the 2011-2012 school year, students entering or enrolled in a Mississippi public school implementing an innovative program authorized by the State Board of Education who have earned credits in the *Required Subjects* for a diploma in the state of Mississippi and will have completed an end of course assessment or end of domain assessment, will be exempt from State Board Policy 3803 until the State Board of Education has adopted standards and cut-scores for the corresponding assessments.
4. Students entering a Mississippi public school will not be required to pass any end-of-

course Subject Area Test in a course for which the school accepts credit earned by the student in a private school as fulfilling the requirements for a Mississippi high school diploma, provided the private school is accredited regionally or by the state of Mississippi.

5. Students entering a Mississippi public school will be required to pass any end-of-course Subject Area Test in a course for which the school accepts credit earned by the student in a private school as fulfilling the requirements for a Mississippi high school diploma if the private school is not accredited regionally or by the state of Mississippi.
6. Students entering a Mississippi public school will be required to pass any end-of-course Subject Area Test in a course for which the school accepts credit earned by the student through home schooling as fulfilling the requirements for a Mississippi high school diploma.
7. Passage of the required Subject Area Test (High School End of Course Assessment or End of Domain Assessments as appropriate) is a separate requirement for graduation for students prior to the 2014-15 school year. In accordance with Section 37-16-5 of the MS Code, innovative programs authorized by the State Board of Education, shall periodically assess student performance and achievement in each school. Such assessment programs shall be based upon local goals and objectives which are compatible with the state's plan for education and which supplement the minimum performance standards approved by the State Board of Education. Data from district assessment programs shall be provided to the State Department of Education when such data is required in order to evaluate specific instructional programs or processes or when the data is needed for other research or evaluation projects. Each district may provide acceptable, compatible district assessment data to substitute for any assessment data needed at the state level when the State Department of Education certifies that such data is acceptable for the purposes of Section 37-16-3.

Source Code: MS Code 37-17-6, 37-16-7

Rule 36.3 Policies for Carnegie Unit Credit.

1. Any Mississippi public school student shall not be awarded Carnegie unit credit unless the core objectives identified in the Mississippi College and Career-Ready Standards or Mississippi Curriculum Framework have been mastered.
2. For students entering a Mississippi public school from a regionally accredited private school or public school in another state for which the school did not award a Carnegie Unit even though the student successfully completed a course, the district may accept the course as meeting the requirement for the *Required Subjects* for a diploma in the state of Mississippi provided the district determines that the content of the course taken is comparable. However, the total *Carnegie Unit* requirement for the *Curriculum Area* remains the same.
3. Students entering a public school in Mississippi from any regionally accredited public or private school that awarded a Carnegie Unit for the successful completion of a course, the district may accept the course as meeting the requirement for the “Required Subject” in Appendix A of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
4. Any student previously enrolled in a Mississippi public school that failed a SATP exam and later transfers credit for the same SATP course from either a private school that is accredited regionally or by the state of Mississippi or an out-of-state public school must meet one of the graduation options in State Board Policy 3803.

Source Code: *MS Code 37-17-6, 37-16-7 (Revised 3/2015)*

Rule 36.4 Assessments Required for Graduation

All students enrolled in one of the four end-of-course Subject Area Test courses *must* pass the course and participate in the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test in order to earn the Carnegie Unit.

1. Beginning with school year 2014-2015, students shall graduate by passing the course and meeting *one* of the following options:

- Passing the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test, or
- Using options outlined in State Board Policy 3804, or
- Using the end-of-course Subject Area Test score with the overall course grade based on the Concordance Table for each of the four end-of-course Subject Area Tests as provided to school districts by the Mississippi Department of Education. (Students must be enrolled in order to utilize this option.)

2. Beginning with school year 2015-2016, in addition to number two (2) above, all students enrolled may achieve a combined minimum score from the end-of-course Subject Area Tests to meet the requirement for graduation in lieu of passing the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test.

3. Beginning with school year 2018-2019, all students who are enrolled in an end-of-course Subject Area Test course for the first time must participate in the assessment in order to earn the Carnegie Unit. The assessment score will constitute 25% of the student's final grade in the course.

4. Any Mississippi public school student who fails to pass a required end-of-course Subject Area Test, prior to school year 2018-2019, will be offered opportunities to retake the test.

Archived Information Regarding State Board Policy 3803 for Students Graduation Prior to School Year 2014-2015:

Academic end-of-course tests were phased in during the 2001-2002 school year to replace the (FLE) as a requirement for graduation.

1. Students who began 9th grade PRIOR to 1999-2000 must pass the Functional Literacy Examination (FLE).
2. Students who began 9th grade in school year 1999-2000 must pass the Functional Literacy Examination (FLE) plus the Subject Area Test in U.S. History.
3. Students who began 9th grade in school year 2000-2001 must pass the mathematics section of the FLE plus the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History and English II.
4. Students who began 9th grade in 2001-2002 must pass the mathematics section of the FLE plus the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History, English II, and Biology I.
5. Students who began 9th grade in 2002-2003 must pass the end-of-course Subject Area Tests in U. S. History, English II, Biology I and Algebra I. Students who began 9th grade in 2003-2004 and each year thereafter must pass all required end-of-course Subject Area Tests in U.S. History, English II, Biology I, and Algebra I.

Source Code: MS Code 37-1-3, 37-17-6, 37-16-7 (Revised 4/2016)

Rule 36.5 Additional Assessment Options for Meeting End-of-Course Subject Area Test Graduation Requirements. State Board Policy 3803, *Assessments Required for Graduation*, outlines the end-of- course subject area test graduation requirements. State Board Policy 3804 provides approved options for students to meet these high school end-of-course subject area test graduation requirements through approved alternate measures. State Board Policy 3804 applies to past, current, and future Mississippi students.

While it is possible that a student will meet one of the options below before taking the subject area test, this policy states that a student is eligible to use any of these options once he or she has failed to pass any required end-of-course subject area test **two times**. Specifically, students may meet the graduation requirement outlined in State Board Policy 3803 by attaining any one of the measures outlined below for each of the subject area tests listed.

1. Algebra I

- a. Obtain a score of **17** or higher on the Math subject subscore of the ACT.
- b. Earn a C or higher in an entry level, credit-bearing dual enrollment/dual credit /college credit course with a MAT prefix.
- c. Obtain an ASVAB AFQT score of 36 **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and outlined in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
- d. Obtain the *Silver Level* on the ACT WorkKeys **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.

2. Biology I

- a. Obtain a score of **17** or higher on the Science subject subscore of the ACT.

- b. Earn a C or higher in an entry level, credit-bearing dual enrollment / dual credit / college credit course with a BIO prefix.
 - i. Obtain an ASVAB AFQT score of 36 **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
 - d. Obtain the *Silver Level* on the ACT WorkKeys **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
3. English II
- a. Obtain a score of **17** or higher on the English subject subscore of the ACT.
 - b. Earn a C or higher in an entry level, credit-bearing dual enrollment / dual credit college credit course with an ENG prefix.
 - c. Obtain an ASVAB AFQT score of 36 **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
 - d. Obtain the *Silver Level* on the ACT WorkKeys **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
4. U.S. History

- a. Obtain a score of **17** or higher on the reading subject subscore of the ACT.
- b. Earn a C or higher in an entry level credit-bearing dual enrollment / dual credit / college credit course with a HIS prefix.
- c. Obtain an ASVAB AFQT score of 36 **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.
- d. Obtain the *Silver Level* on the ACT WorkKeys **plus one** of the following:
 - i. Earn a CPAS (Career Planning and Assessment System) score that meets the attainment level assigned by Federal Perkins requirements.
 - ii. Earn an approved Industry Certification as specified in the Career Pathway's Assessment Blueprint and in **Appendix A-5** in the current edition of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*.

Source: MS Code 37-17-6 and 37-16-7 (Adopted 01/2014)