

Regulations Governing Adult High School Programs

8 VAC 20-30-10

8 VAC 20-30-10. Responsibility.

Local ~~[authorities]~~ [school officials] are responsible for evaluating and awarding credit for educational achievement, other than that earned in the ~~regular~~ high school program.

8 VAC 20-30-20. Minimum requirements for ~~secondary~~ adult high school programs.

~~Secondary~~ Adult high school programs ~~for adults which~~ are not part of the ~~regular day~~ 9 through 12 high school program and shall meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Age. ~~A~~ An adult student shall be at least 18 years of age. Under circumstances which local school authorities consider justifiable, [students of school age may enroll in courses offered by the adult high school the age limit may be lowered]. Only in exceptional circumstances should ~~[local authorities~~ school officials] permit ~~a regularly~~ [an a school-aged] individual enrolled ~~day student~~ in grades 9 through 12 to earn credits toward high school graduation in adult classes. ~~(In such cases, alternative~~ All educational programs alternatives must have been considered) prior to placing an enrolled student in an adult class. [Such students would be able to earn a diploma, as provided in 8 VAC 20-131-50 et seq., but would not be eligible to earn an adult high school diploma.]

2. Credit.

a. Satisfactory completion of 108 hours of classroom instruction in a subject shall constitute sufficient evidence for one unit of credit toward a high school diploma. ~~Where accelerated or other innovative instructional methods are used, satisfactory completion of comparable competencies as the regular secondary school program as measured by objective testing in a subject shall constitute sufficient evidence for one unit of credit.~~

b. ~~Eighteen units of credit are required for graduation as specified in the Standards for Accrediting Schools in Virginia with the exclusion of health and physical education.~~

c. ~~An Advanced Studies Diploma (20 credits) shall be awarded to students who complete the credits as specified in the Standards for Accrediting Schools in Virginia with the exclusion of health and physical education.~~

d. ~~In addition to the units of credit specified in the Standards for Accrediting Schools in Virginia, each student must demonstrate mastery of minimum competencies as prescribed by the Board of Education.~~

e. ~~b.~~ When, in the judgment of the principal or the superintendent, an adult not regularly enrolled in the ~~day~~ [grade] 9 through 12 high school program is able to demonstrate by examination or other objective evidence, satisfactory completion of the work, he may receive credit in accordance with policies adopted by the local school board. It is the responsibility of the school issuing the credit to document the types of examinations employed; or other objective evidence used, the testing or assessment procedures, and the extent of progress in each case.

~~f. No student may be issued a diploma by earning credits in adult or evening classes prior to the time that he would have graduated from a secondary school had he remained in school and made normal progress.~~

g. c. Credits ~~actually~~ earned in adult ~~secondary~~ high school programs shall be transferable as [~~identified prescribed~~] in the ~~Standards for Accrediting Schools in Virginia Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia [(8 VAC 20-131)]~~ within the sponsoring school division and shall be transferable to public secondary schools outside of the sponsoring school division.

3. Diplomas.

a. A diploma[, as provided in 8 VAC 20-131-50 et seq.,] shall be awarded to an adult student who completes all requirements of the diploma regulated by the Board of Education[, with the exception of health and physical education requirements,] in effect at the time he will graduate.[; however, the board may authorize substitute assessments for adult students.]

b. An adult high school diploma shall be awarded to an adult student who completes the course credit requirements in effect for any Board of Education diploma, with the exception of health and physical education course requirements, at the time he first entered the ninth grade[; however, the board may authorize substitute assessments for adult students]. [The requirement for specific assessments may be waived if the assessments are no longer administered to students in Virginia public schools.]

c. An adult high school diploma shall be awarded to an adult student who demonstrates through applied performance assessment full mastery of the [National External Diploma Program Generalized Competencies ~~Correlated with CASAS Competencies, 1996~~, as

promulgated by the American Council on Education and validated and endorsed by the United States Department of Education.

d. [A General Achievement Diploma, as provided in 8 VAC 20-680-10 et seq., shall be awarded to an adult student who completes all requirements of the diploma.]

8 VAC 20-30-30. Minimum qualifications of teachers.

~~The minimum qualifications of t~~ [Teachers teaching in the adult ~~and evening~~ high school program shall be licensed and endorsed in the subject areas they teach ~~the same in all respects as those required for the regular day school public high schools~~].

8 VAC 20-30-40. Library facilities.

~~The library facilities available for the regular day school shall be available for the adult evening school.~~

The adult high school program shall have library media services, science laboratories, and computer technology accessible to instructional staff and adult learners.

~~[8 VAC 20-30-50.] Science laboratory facilities. (Repealed.)~~

~~If science is offered, the laboratory facilities also shall be available.~~

[8 VAC 20-30-60.] Administration and supervision.

The adult ~~and evening~~ high school program shall be under the supervision of the ~~secondary~~ high school principal, assistant principal, or a qualified staff member approved by the division superintendent.

[8 VAC 20-30-70.] Guidance services.

The adult ~~and evening~~ high school ~~should~~ program shall have appropriate guidance services available.

I certify that this document is accurate and true.

Margaret N. Roberts
Agency Regulatory Coordinator
June 15, 2005