



Responsible: Department of Student Accounting

PURPOSE

This Administrative Procedure shall describe and define protocols related to graduation of fifth-year senior students.

PROCEDURE

1. Some students will not fulfill all the requirements for graduation and will be eligible to return, if accepted, as a "fifth-year student." As a fifth-year student, the student is considered a regular student and bound by all district and school rules and regulations. No student who has completed the requirements for graduation may return for a 5th year.
2. Students who have been accepted for fifth-year status must be enrolled in the student information system as grade 13 for the upcoming school year. This will ensure that teacher allocations will be based on the upcoming school year's "entire" enrollment.
3. A FIVE-YEAR GRADUATE (5th year senior) is defined as a student who is allowed to return as a full-time student in order to earn a standard or other diploma.
 - a. Students who have been enrolled in four years of high school, are 18 years old and seek to enroll as a 5th year senior may enroll at the discretion of the principal.
 - b. Students who have been enrolled in four years of high school and are 17 years of age, must be enrolled as a 5th year senior if the students have not graduated from high school.
 - c. The returning student must be enrolled in a full schedule (full load) to be counted unless the student has an exemption for either cause or merit on file. If a student has an exemption for either cause or merit, the class schedule will be four classes on a six period schedule or five classes on a seven period schedule with exemption.
 - d. A Five-Year Graduate will be ranked with the class with which the student will actually graduate.
 - e. A Five-Year Graduate must meet the graduation requirements for the class in which the student will graduate.
 - f. A Five-Year Graduate will be eligible to earn an Honors, Honors College and Career Ready (HCCR), College and Career Ready (CCR), Advanced, or Standard Diploma. However, a student may not return after completing the requirements for graduation to earn a higher Diploma if another diploma type has been earned.

- g. A Five-Year Graduate will be eligible to earn scholarships (including the Millennium) with the class with which he/she will actually graduate.
 - h. A Five-Year Graduate will be listed in the graduation program as a graduate regardless of participation in the ceremony.
4. The diploma for a fifth-year graduate is issued by the school where the student is enrolled as the primary enrollment (full-time) with the exception of a Washoe County School District (District) summer school in some instances.
 - a. When the student finishes the requirements for graduation while enrolled in a District summer program different than the zoned school, the school where the student had primary enrollment immediately preceding summer program will issue the diploma.
 - b. If the student is enrolled part time and is not enrolled anywhere else full time (as the primary enrollment) during the same semester as the part time enrollment the school where the student is enrolled part time may issue the diploma.
 - c. If a student is enrolled with a primary enrollment at one school and a part time enrollment at another school, the student must receive the diploma from the school of primary enrollment.
 - d. If a student attends another diploma granting institution (Rise Academy, a charter school, a private school, etc.) and earns their last credit, even if for summer school, the student is not eligible for a District Standard, Honors, HCCR, CCR, or Advanced Diploma.
5. A student who does not complete the missing credits by September 30th of each year will be counted as a dropout.
6. Fifth year seniors are eligible to be included in apportionment.
7. Students with disabilities have additional options and timelines.
8. NOTE: Each school will decide what other class-related privileges will be available to the Five-Year Graduate such as junior/senior prom, etc.
9. See Administrative Procedure 6213, Diploma/Transcript Dates, for information about issuing a diploma and/or transcript for the Five-Year Graduate.
10. See Administrative Procedure 5511, Ranking/Recognition (7th & 8th Semester), for additional information.
11. See Administrative Regulation 5127, High School Graduation Diploma Requirements (Students with Disabilities).

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This Administrative Procedure reflects the goals of the District’s Strategic Plan and aligns/complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
 - a. Administrative Regulation 5127, High School Graduation Requirements;
 - b. Administrative Procedure 6213, Diploma Dates;
 - c. Administrative Procedure 5511, Ranking/Recognition (7th & 8th Semester); and
 - d. Administrative Form 6221, Fifth-Year Senior Application.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
07/2009	1.0	Adopted as Accepted Practice
9/2012	2.0	Revised
1/09/2014	3.0	Revised: converted to Administrative Procedure
12/07/2015	4.0	Revised: clarified that the last school of full-time enrollment issues the diploma with the exception of summer school
12/20/2020	5.0	Revised: clarified there are no caveats to student’s return as a 5 th year except being within the cohort. Application requirement and application removed from the process.
8/19/2021	5.1	Revised: formatted per BP 9070
2/7/2022	6.0	Revised: clarified graduation requirements.
8/16/24	7.0	Revised: consolidated delayed graduation into this procedure and updated procedure.