

# Williamson County Board of Education

**Adopted Date:**

4/21/03  
Rev.6/20/05;5/18/09;  
5/20/13;3/24/14;9/17/18  
Editorial 4/20/15

4.605

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
Page 1 of 2

1 Graduation from the Williamson County School System indicates that students have satisfactorily  
2 completed the prescribed courses of study in accordance with their respective abilities to achieve  
3 and that they have satisfactorily passed any examinations and other requirements set by the State  
4 and supplemented by the faculty with the approval of the Board. (In addition, students shall have  
5 maintained a satisfactory record of citizenship during their progression through the instructional  
6 program of the schools.)  
7

## 8 EXIT EXAMS

9 With the exception of students on an alternative assessment path detailed in an IEP, every student  
10 in Williamson County Schools is required to take the ACT as a requirement for graduation. Up to  
11 2% of the students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade group may be excused by an IEP team as allowed by federal  
12 or state law. The test will be administered to 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at the regular spring testing date  
13 established by ACT. Each high school will inform and register students for the spring test using a  
14 voucher purchased by the school system from ACT. Students who fail to take the exam on the  
15 scheduled day and their parents will be reminded of the requirement and encouraged to register for  
16 the next test date. Students who do not take the test on the date established by the school system  
17 may be required to pay from personal funds for the make-up exam. The school is responsible for  
18 notifying students and parents of this graduation requirement in handbooks and other student  
19 publications and school forms.  
20  
21

## 22 GRADUATION CEREMONY

23 Qualification for and participation in graduation or commencement ceremonies shall be limited to  
24 seniors who have satisfactorily completed the requirements for a diploma. Beginning with school  
25 year 2014-2015, students completing requirements in the summer may participate in a district-wide  
26 summer graduation ceremony.  
27  
28

29 Upon completion of the Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) and Eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grades, recognition programs for students may be  
30 celebrated. Report cards for those students may be presented at that time, along with special  
31 recognition of student's achievement. Formal graduation activities are reserved for graduation from  
32 high school.  
33  
34

## 35 HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

36 The Board authorizes the awarding of high school diplomas to those students recommended by the  
37 school staff, the principal and approved by the Superintendent as having met the requirements for  
38 graduation established by the Board and the Tennessee State Board of Education. Individual  
39 schools, with Board approval, may set requirements that exceed those established by the state and  
40 the Board as minimum requirements. These requirements shall be placed on the school's website.  
41

42 The types of diplomas that may be awarded to graduating seniors include the regular high school  
43 diploma, the Tennessee diploma with honors, the Tennessee diploma with distinction, the  
44 Williamson County honors diploma, an individual school honors diploma (where available), the  
45 special education diploma (satisfactory completion of an IEP), the occupational diploma  
46 (satisfactory completion of an IEP and SKEMA), and an alternate academic diploma (satisfactory  
47 completion of an IEP and modified course requirements), all according to State regulations (0520-  
48 1-3-06) and other local requirements specified in the following section of this policy.  
49  
50

# Williamson County Board of Education

**Adopted Date:**

4/21/03  
Rev.6/20/05;5/18/09;  
5/20/13;3/24/14;9/17/18  
Editorial 4/20/15

4.605

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
Page 2 of 2

1 **DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS**

2 Graduation requirements for Williamson County students will be in compliance with (meet or  
3 exceed) currently approved regulations of the Tennessee State Board of Education regarding types  
4 of diplomas and course requirements as outlined in policy 4.605.  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50

Cross References:

4.6051 Credit Requirements for Graduation  
4.60511 Graduation with Honors or Distinction