

Williamson County Board of Education

**Adopted Date:**

10/20/13; Rev. 2/16/09;
4/18/11; 1/17/12;
Editorial 10/21/13; Rev.
11/27/17

4.60511

GRADUATION WITH HONORS OR DISTINCTION
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1 Students may graduate with honors or distinction by meeting the criteria established for the
2 Tennessee diploma with honors or distinction, the Williamson County Honors Diploma, or any local
3 school level honors diploma available.
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6 **a. WILLIAMSON COUNTY SCHOOLS HONORS DIPLOMA**

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8 To earn a Williamson County Honors Diploma, students shall complete the core curriculum and
9 four credits of science, plus the additional path requirements which include an elective focus.
10 Except as described in this paragraph, course requirements for the Williamson County Honors
11 Diploma are the same as for the regular diploma. A minimum of 14 credits must be at Honors or
12 Advanced Placement level or through dual enrollment as described below. Students must qualify
13 for Latin honors by having a 3.75 or higher academic average on either a 4.0 or 5.0 scale.
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15 **Dual Enrollment and Middle School Credits**

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17 Students who are accepted for dual enrollment or early admission to a college or university may
18 have college courses considered for meeting the 14 honors credit requirement if the course taken
19 at the university level is offered at the Honors or Advanced Placement level by WCS. For example,
20 English 101 and English 102 would meet one credit requirement replacing AP English IV but
21 College Algebra would not count since Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry is not offered at the
22 Honors or Advanced Placement level by WCS.
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25 When a student receives high school pass/fail credit at the middle school level, the credit will be
26 counted as an honors class toward meeting the Williamson County Honors Diploma requirement if
27 the class was taught at an honors level. Otherwise, the course will be listed as a high school credit
28 but will not count toward meeting the Williamson County Honors Diploma requirements.
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31 **b. TENNESSEE DIPLOMA WITH HONORS**

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33 Students who score at or above all of the subject readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent
34 score on the SAT will graduate with honors.
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36 **c. TENNESSEE DIPLOMA WITH DISTINCTION**

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38 Students will be recognized as graduating with “distinction” by attaining a B average and
39 completing at least one of the following:
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- 1) Earn a nationally recognized industry certification
 - 2) Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
 - 3) Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
 - 4) Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist
 - 5) Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
 - 6) Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two Advanced Placement exams
 - 7) Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
 - 8) Earn 12 or more semester hours of transcribed college credit

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1 d. COMMUNITY SERVICE

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3 Students who voluntarily complete at least ten (10) hours of community service each semester the
4 student is in attendance at a public high school, shall be recognized at their graduation ceremony.
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6 e. INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL HONORS DIPLOMA

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8 Individual high schools may exceed these requirements for a local school honors diploma. Schools
9 may specify additional requirements. These requirements shall be listed on each school's website.
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37 Legal References:

38 TCA 49-1-212, 49-1-302, 49-6-403, 49-6-6001
39 TRR/MS 0520-1-3-06
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Cross References:

4.605 Graduation Requirements
4.600 Report Cards
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