

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
May 18, 2017

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION

01. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Appendix A-3 and Appendix G of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards: Graduation Requirements effective school year 2017-2018* [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background Information: Senate Bill 2432 from the 2017 legislative session suspended the Mississippi Occupational Diploma (MOD) and Career Pathways Option. The Modified Occupational Diploma and Career Pathways Option shall not be available to any student entering the 9th grade in 2017-2018.

The proposed revisions will revise Appendix A-3 and Appendix G to reflect the recent legislation.

This item references Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 14**

**CAREER PATHWAY OPTION
SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (and thereafter)
(Entering eleventh graders in 2010-2011 and ~~thereafter~~ ending with entering ninth graders 2016-2017)**

In 2010, Mississippi state policymakers passed legislation to create multiple pathways to a standard diploma. The 2010 legislative actions created a career pathway to a standard diploma, with the goal of improving Mississippi graduation rates and providing students with career and technical training that prepares students for postsecondary credential or certification programs and employable workplace skills. This legislative change created Miss. Code Ann. § 37-16-17, to provide for high school career option programs and career track curricula for students not wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree.

Enrollment in online and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one (1) of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4 ¹	English I English II
MATHEMATICS	3 ²	Algebra I or Integrated Math I
SCIENCE	3 ³	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 ^{4&5}	1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies
HEALTH or PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½ ⁶	½ Contemporary Health or ½ Physical Education ¹⁰
CAREER and TECHNICAL	4 ⁷	(Selected from Student's Program of Study)
BUSINESS and TECHNOLOGY	1 ⁸	Technology Foundations, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) II, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), or Computer Applications and Keyboarding
ELECTIVES	2½ ⁹	Courses selected from the student's approved program of study
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	21	

NOTE: Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning requirements differ from minimum graduation requirements for this diploma pathway.

APPENDIX A-3 (Continued)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

STANDARD 14

CAREER PATHWAY OPTION

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (and thereafter)

(Entering eleventh graders in 2010-2011 and ~~thereafter~~ ending with entering ninth graders 2016-2017)

¹Compensatory English, Compensatory Reading, and Compensatory Writing shall not be included in the four (4) English courses required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory English may only be taken if a credit-bearing English course is taken in the same school year. The two (2) additional English credits must be from the student's program of study which includes Technical Writing, Creative Writing, English III, English IV, or any college-level dual credit courses.

²Compensatory Mathematics may not be included in the three (3) mathematics courses required for graduation. Beginning school year 2014-2015, Compensatory Mathematics may only be taken if a credit-bearing Math course is taken in the same school year. Math 8 cannot be taken after Algebra I or Integrated Math I. For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one (1) of the required mathematics courses must be above Algebra I or Integrated Math I and selected from the student's program of study. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I or Integrated Math I are: Geometry, Integrated Math II, Algebra II, Integrated Math III, CCSS Advanced Math Plus, Algebra III, SREB Math Ready, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and AP Statistics, or any college-level dual credit courses. Survey of Mathematical Topics, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Discrete Mathematics, and Statistics meet this requirement if taken prior to the 2015-2016 school year. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra are no longer available after the 2013-2014 school year. Carnegie units may be earned by seventh and eighth graders effective with school year 2014-2015 for the following courses: CCSS Compacted Math Grade 7, CCSS Math Grade 8, CCSS Compacted Math Grade 8(with Integrated Math I), and CCSS Math Grade 8(with Algebra I/Traditional).

³For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one (1) of the required science courses must be above Biology I and selected from the student's program of study. If a student's program of study allows, one (1) unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience (AEST). A second science unit may be earned by completing a two-course sequence selected from the following options: Science of Agricultural Animals, Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two (2) units may be in the following courses if the student completes the two-course sequence: Healthcare & Clinical Services I & II, Health Science I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Polymer Science I & II; and Engineering I & II. Effective with school year 2013-14, up to two (2) of the three (3) required science units (excluding Biology I) may be earned by completing Agriculture and Natural Resources I & II. One (1) credit allowed shall be awarded for Biology II, and one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) credit shall be awarded for Botany, and one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) credit shall be awarded for Field Experiences in Science. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Introduction to Agriscience may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁴AP U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Post-reconstruction to Present. The third social studies credit should be selected based on the student's program of study.

⁵The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit social studies course.

Credit earned for Business Fundamentals or Business Fundamentals II may be accepted in lieu of one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit in Economics. Effective with eighth graders of school year 2013-14, Mississippi Studies, Geography and Introduction to Agriscience may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

⁶Credit earned in Healthcare & Clinical Services I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Contemporary Health to meet the graduation requirement for one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) Carnegie unit in Health. Interscholastic athletic activities, band, and ROTC, if they meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework*, may also be accepted.

⁷Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses must be based on the student's program of study and should include dual credit/dual enrollment options as found in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-15-38.

⁸Evidence of proficiency in technology is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one (1) unit in a technology-rich academic or career technical course related to their program of study.

⁹Electives must be selected from courses related to the student's program of study. Credits earned not approved for that student's program of study will not be counted toward graduation requirements.

¹⁰Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health meet the health requirement if taken prior to the 2014-2015 school year.

MISSISSIPPI OCCUPATIONAL DIPLOMA STANDARD 14.4

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009 AND LATER
(Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006 and ~~thereafter~~ ending with entering ninth graders 2016-2017)

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-16-11(2), the State Board of Education has approved criteria for an occupational diploma for students with disabilities. The Mississippi Occupational Diploma provides an option for students with disabilities that emphasizes high expectations in both academics and work experiences that will assist students in acquiring and maintaining the necessary competencies and skills needed to secure and retain competitive employment. The primary postgraduate goal for these students is competitive employment.

- The decision regarding participation in the Mississippi Occupational Diploma program will be made by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) committee, which must include a school counselor. Instructional program and diploma options are to be reviewed annually by the IEP committee and revisions made as necessary.
- The Mississippi Occupational Diploma program may be implemented in any Least Restrictive Environment deemed appropriate by the IEP committee. Students in the occupational diploma program may earn credits by successfully completing course work selected from the general education curriculum and/or special education courses as agreed upon by the student's IEP committee.
- Students with disabilities choosing to participate in the Mississippi Occupational Diploma program must earn a minimum of 21 course credits and complete an occupational diploma portfolio containing a collection of evidence of the student's knowledge, skills, and abilities.
- Students with disabilities choosing to participate in the Mississippi Occupational Diploma program must successfully complete a two-year Career/Technical (Vocational) Program. In lieu of completing a two-year Career/Technical (Vocational) Program, students with disabilities may document a minimum of five hundred forty (540) hours of successful, paid employment.
- Prior to graduation, an exit IEP committee meeting must be held to evaluate accomplishment of the goals and objectives on the IEP and the completion of all requirements for the Mississippi Occupational Diploma. At this meeting, the student will present the completed Mississippi Occupational Diploma Portfolio for review by the IEP committee.
- The final Mississippi Occupational Diploma Portfolio will be reviewed and approved prior to graduation by the principal or a designee.

For additional details, see the State Board of Education approved guidelines for the Mississippi Occupational Diploma at http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/special_education/pdfs/occupat_diploma.pdf.

By: Senator(s) Tollison

To: Education

SENATE BILL NO. 2432
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-16-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE SPECIAL MISSISSIPPI OCCUPATIONAL DIPLOMA FOR
3 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SHALL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO ANY STUDENT
4 ENTERING THE NINTH GRADE IN THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR OR
5 THEREAFTER; TO AMEND SECTION 37-16-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
6 TO PROVIDE THAT THE CAREER TRACK PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS NOT PURSUING
7 A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE SHALL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO ANY STUDENT
8 ENTERING THE NINTH GRADE IN THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR OR
9 THEREAFTER; TO AMEND SECTION 37-23-147, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
10 TO REVISE THE PROCESS BY WHICH SCHOOLS PROVIDING FULL INCLUSION OF
11 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN ALL ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR
12 ACTIVITIES ARE RECOGNIZED; TO RENAME THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AS
13 THE MISSISSIPPI SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL; AND FOR RELATED
14 PURPOSES.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

16 **SECTION 1.** Section 37-16-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
17 amended as follows:

18 37-16-11. (1) A student who has been properly classified,
19 in accordance with rules established by the State Board * * * of
20 Education shall, upon meeting all applicable requirements
21 prescribed by the district school board, be awarded a special
22 diploma in a form prescribed by the state board; however, such
23 special graduation requirements prescribed by the district school
24 board shall include minimum graduation requirements as prescribed



25 by the state board. Any such student who meets all special
26 requirements of the district school board for his exceptionality,
27 but is unable to meet the appropriate special state minimum
28 requirements, shall be awarded a special certificate of completion
29 in a form prescribed by the state board. Nothing provided in this
30 section, however, shall be construed to limit or restrict the
31 right of an exceptional student solely to a special diploma. Any
32 such student shall, upon proper request, be afforded the
33 opportunity to fully meet all requirements of Section 37-16-7
34 through the standard procedures established therein and thereby
35 qualify for a standard diploma upon graduation.

36 (2) The State Board of Education shall develop and issue
37 criteria for a Mississippi Occupational Diploma for students
38 having a disability as defined by the federal Individuals with
39 Disabilities Education Act. Beginning with the 2002-2003 school
40 year, any such student, upon proper request, shall be afforded the
41 opportunity to fully meet such requirements and qualify for an
42 occupational diploma upon graduation.

43 (3) The special Mississippi Occupational Diploma for
44 students with disabilities shall not be available to any student
45 entering the Ninth Grade in the 2017-2018 school year or
46 thereafter, pending State Board of Education approval of new
47 graduation options.

48 **SECTION 2.** Section 37-16-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
49 amended as follows:



50 37-16-17. (1) Purpose. (a) The purpose of this section is
51 to create a quality option in Mississippi's high schools for
52 students not wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree, which shall
53 consist of challenging academic courses and modern
54 career-technical studies. The goal for students pursuing the
55 career track is to graduate from high school with a standard
56 diploma and credit toward a community college certification in a
57 career-technical field. These students also shall be encouraged
58 to take the national assessment in the career-technical field in
59 which they become certified.

60 (b) The State Board of Education shall develop and
61 adopt course and curriculum requirements for career track programs
62 offered by local public school boards in accordance with this
63 section. The Mississippi Community College Board and the State
64 Board of Education jointly shall determine course and curriculum
65 requirements for the career track program.

66 (2) Alternative career track; description; curriculum. (a)
67 A career track shall provide a student with greater technical
68 skill and a strong academic core and shall be offered to each high
69 school student enrolled in a public school district. The career
70 track program shall be linked to postsecondary options and shall
71 prepare students to pursue either a degree or certification from a
72 postsecondary institution, an industry-based training or
73 certification, an apprenticeship, the military, or immediate
74 entrance into a career field. The career track shall be designed



75 primarily for those students who are not college bound and shall
76 provide them with alternatives to entrance into a four-year
77 university or college after high school graduation.

78 (b) Students pursuing a career track shall be afforded
79 the opportunity to dually enroll in a community or technical
80 college or to participate in a business internship or work-study
81 program, when such opportunities are available and appropriate.

82 (c) Each public school district shall offer a career
83 track program approved by the State Board of Education.

84 (d) Students in a career track program shall complete
85 an academic core of courses and a career and technical sequence of
86 courses.

87 (e) The twenty-one (21) course unit requirements for
88 the career track shall consist of the following:

89 (i) At least four (4) English credits, including
90 English I and English II.

91 (ii) At least three (3) mathematics credits,
92 including Algebra I.

93 (iii) At least three (3) science credits,
94 including one (1) unit of biology.

95 (iv) At least three (3) social studies credits,
96 including one (1) unit of U.S. History and one (1) unit of
97 Mississippi Studies/U.S. Government.

98 (v) At least one-half (1/2) credit in health or
99 physical education.



100 (vi) At least four (4) credits in career and
101 technical education courses in the dual enrollment-dual credit
102 programs authorized under Section 37-15-38.

103 (vii) At least one (1) credit in integrated
104 technology with optional end of course testing.

105 (viii) At least two and one-half (2-1/2) credits
106 in additional electives or career and technical education courses
107 required by the local school board, as approved by the State Board
108 of Education. Academic courses within the career track of the
109 standard diploma shall provide the knowledge and skill necessary
110 for proficiency on the state subject area tests.

111 (3) Nothing in this section shall disallow the development
112 of a dual enrollment program with a technical college so long as
113 an individual school district, with approval from the State
114 Department of Education, agrees to implement such a program in
115 connection with a technical college and the agreement is also
116 approved by the proprietary school's commission.

117 (4) The career track program for students not pursuing a
118 Baccalaureate Degree shall not be available to any student
119 entering the Ninth Grade in the 2017-2018 school year or
120 thereafter.

121 **SECTION 3.** Section 37-23-147, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
122 amended as follows:

123 37-23-147. (1) The State Department of Education shall
124 establish goals for the performance of * * * students with



125 disabilities that will promote the purpose of IDEA and are
126 consistent, to the maximum extent appropriate, with other goals
127 and standards for * * * students established by the State
128 Department of Education. Performance indicators used to assess
129 progress toward achieving those goals that, at a minimum, address
130 the performance of * * * students with disabilities on
131 assessments, drop-out rates, and graduation rates shall be
132 developed. Every two (2) years, the progress toward meeting the
133 established performance goals shall be reported to the public.

134 (2) To encourage the full inclusion of * * * students with
135 disabilities in all aspects of academic and extracurricular
136 activities, the State Department of Education * * * may provide
137 special recognition to the schools receiving such designation and
138 their school districts. Examples of such recognition may include,
139 but not be limited to: public announcements and events,
140 certificates of recognition and plaques for teachers, principals,
141 superintendents and parents, and media announcements utilizing the
142 services of Mississippi Educational Television. This special
143 recognition * * * may be awarded to * * * elementary, * * *
144 middle * * * or high schools, based on entries submitted to the
145 Mississippi Special Education Advisory * * * Panel by the
146 deadline * * * to be determined annually by the panel. These
147 entries shall be in the form of a report, * * * listing the name,
148 address and telephone number of the school district/school;
149 teacher or staff responsible for administering the program; type



150 of position held by each of these employees including credentials;
151 description of the program; number of students with disabilities
152 included; type and level of severity of disabilities; number of
153 students without disabilities involved in the program; how long
154 the program has been in operation; benefit of program to all
155 students; and a description of how this program could be
156 replicated by other school districts. Winners of the Exemplary
157 Inclusion Program contest shall be chosen annually by the
158 Mississippi Special Education Advisory * * * Panel at a date
159 determined by the panel.

160 Recognition * * * may be given to these schools during * * *
161 a meeting of the Mississippi State Board of Education * * * at a
162 date determined by the board. Information on these exemplary
163 programs shall be provided to other school districts and the
164 general public through news releases, the state department
165 website, and other similar avenues.

166 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
167 and after July 1, 2017.

