

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER**  
**Summary of the State Board of Education Agenda Item**  
**July 18, 2019**

**OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION**  
**OFFICE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION**

10. Action: Revise Process Standard 14.1 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019* [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comment)

Background Information: On Thursday, June 6, 2019, the Commission on School Accreditation (CSA) met in a regularly scheduled meeting and voted unanimously to approve the proposed revisions to Process Standard 14.1 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019*.

The proposed revisions provide clarity to ensure that districts offer students the diploma endorsements outlined in Process Standards 14.1.8, 14.1.9 and 14.1.10 that were adopted by the State Board of Education on September 14, 2017.

The public comment period was open through 5:00 p.m. July 8, 2019. Based on the one public comment received, the MDE is recommending adding additional language for clarification of implementation and eligibility.

This item references Goal 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2018–2022 Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

Proposed Revisions to Process Standard 14.1 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019*

Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has earned the minimum number of Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A. (See Appendix A.) (Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 28.2 and 28.3, State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rules 28.2 and 28.3.) Students receiving a standard diploma shall select from graduation pathways as specified by the local school district's graduation requirements, which must include the diploma endorsement options outlined in Process Standards 14.1.8, 14.1.9, and 14.1.10. **Diploma endorsement options shall be required of all school districts effective with the incoming freshman class of 2019-2020. Prior cohorts of students shall be eligible to earn endorsement(s) if all applicable requirements are met.**

The Office of Accreditation received the following APA comment(s) regarding revisions to Process Standard 14.1 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019*.

Summary of Comment	MDE Response
<p>Since the previous language (“may”) has allowed districts to choose, the logical change would require a phase-in period for upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders because they will need to be educated on these changes before they begin choosing courses entering high school. My request is that the language state this change be grandfathered in and fully implemented with the graduating class of 2024.</p>	<p>The MDE is recommending adding the following additional language for clarification of implementation and eligibility:  <i>“Diploma endorsement options shall be required of all school districts effective with the incoming freshman class of 2019-2020. Prior cohorts of students shall be eligible to earn endorsement(s) if all applicable requirements are met.”</i></p>

**From:** [Brewer, Sean](#)  
**To:** [Accreditation](#)  
**Cc:** [Jo Ann Malone](#)  
**Subject:** Process Standard 14.1  
**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019 10:52:43 AM

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Dear SBE and MDE,

I am writing concerning the language change in 14.1 to mandate the new diploma tracks which is currently being considered. The issue is related to the date related to this mandate. Since the language previously has allowed districts to choose (may), the logical change would require a phasing in period for actually next year's upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade because they will need to be educated on these changes before they begin choosing courses entering high school. My request is that the language state this change be grandfathered in and fully implemented with the graduating class of 2024.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Sean Brewer  
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