

# POLICY GUIDE

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Sept 20  
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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 102, 134, 153 and 221]

## 2451 ADULT HIGH SCHOOL

The Board of Education may determine a need exists in the community for the provision of educational services that will enable out-of-school adults to qualify for a State-endorsed high school diploma issued by the Board. The purpose of this program is to provide comprehensive life-long learning opportunities for adults. Accordingly, the Board may establish and implement a State-approved adult high school in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education.

The Board of Education may open and operate an adult high school, which shall offer adults opportunity, accessibility, and flexibility while maintaining high standards inherent in the awarding of a high school diploma pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:49-1 et seq., 18A:50-1 et seq., and 18A:50A-1 et seq. Courses shall be sufficiently varied for meeting the educational needs of adults and shall be designed to challenge participants to achieve their highest level of educational ability.

An educational plan shall be developed for each student in the district's adult high school program reflecting the student's past academic record, an analysis of past experiences for which credit may be awarded, graduation requirements, and a proposed schedule of courses for the current school year leading to completion of graduation requirements.

Eligibility for Enrollment (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.2)

To qualify for enrollment in the adult high school, a person shall:

1. Be a New Jersey resident;
2. Meet the age and out-of-school requirement at N.J.A.C. 6A:20-1.3;



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- a. A person enrolled in secondary school with senior standing who lacks an opportunity to take at his or her secondary school courses that are available in an adult high school shall be exempt from the out-of-school requirement provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:20-1.3, provided the Superintendents of both the sending and receiving school districts approve in a written joint agreement the participation of such a person on a space-available basis in an adult high school. The written approval shall explicitly state the course(s) to be taken and the time frame covered by the agreement. Tuition established by the receiving school district on a cost-recovery basis may be charged to the sending school district for persons enrolled under this exception.
3. Have not earned a locally issued, State-endorsed high school diploma;
  - a. Persons holding locally issued high school diplomas may enroll in an adult high school on a space-available basis for the express purpose of supplementing their high school record. Tuition established by the host school district on a cost-recovery basis may be charged to persons enrolling under this exception; and
4. Complete and sign an application for enrollment including a statement of responsibilities.

## Adults with Special Needs (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.3)

Limited English proficient adults shall be required to demonstrate language fluency on a State-approved English proficiency assessment at a score level determined by the State Board of Education in accordance to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.3(a).

For an adult with previous experience in a special education program now seeking similar services at an adult high school, the Principal of the adult high school shall request, with the concurrence of the adult, the most recent evaluation and individualized educational plan (IEP) for the adult from the high school of last attendance, provided the evaluation was made within the last three years pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.3(b).



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1. The Principal shall review the IEP to determine the services required by the plan and also the availability of such services at the adult high school.
  - a. If the IEP can be carried out, it shall serve as the instructional guide for the adult.
  - b. If the Principal determines the IEP cannot be carried out, the Principal shall promptly refer the adult to the nearest adult high school with staff available to offer the special services required in the IEP or to appropriate county or State agencies or institutions with resources and personnel able to serve the special needs of the adult.
2. If the evaluation was made more than three years prior to application to the adult high school, the IEP may not serve as a guide for the adult's instructional program at the adult high school.

Disabled adults without previous experience in a special education program or individuals with IEPs that have been issued more than three years prior to their application to the adult high school shall be counseled regarding educational options that would lead to high school graduation and shall be served to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the disabled adult within the capability of the program to provide such services in accordance to N.J.A.C. 6A:2.3(c).

## Graduation Requirements (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.4)

Adult high school students must pass the Statewide assessment test for graduation. When an adult is unable to pass the Statewide assessment test, there shall be further evaluation through the Alternative High School Assessment pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessments. When limited English proficient adults are unable to pass the Statewide assessment test, they shall be further evaluated through the Alternative High School Assessment pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8 and shall demonstrate English language fluency on a State-approved English proficiency assessment as a requirement for graduation.

When operating an adult high school, the Board shall meet the requirements for high school graduation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5 and Policy 5460.



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The staff of the adult high school shall distribute to each entering adult a copy of all State and local adult high school graduation requirements. At the beginning of each course, all adults shall receive a list of proficiencies required for the successful completion of the course.

Successful completion of the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.4(a) and (b) and those established by the Board of Education shall be required as conditions for awarding a locally issued, State-endorsed diploma.

The Board shall not issue an adult high school diploma without State approval of the adult high school program and without signed verifications for all credit awarded for experience and an official transcript(s) being on file.

## Award of Credit (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.5)

A Board of Education operating an adult high school shall annually adopt at a public meeting policies that provide for the awarding of credit, subject to the provisions outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.5(a)1. through 6A:20-2.5(a)12.

## Awarding of Credit for Foreign Students (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.6)

Credit for the equivalent of American secondary school studies experienced in a foreign country shall be reviewed by a recognized foreign credential evaluation expert or service following an evaluation of transcript(s) presented by the adult. The cost of such review shall be borne by the adult student.

## Maintaining Student Records (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.7)

The adult high school program shall have the responsibility to compile, maintain, and retain student records, including daily attendance records, and to regulate access to and security of such records.

Attendance records will be compiled and maintained in accordance with Board Policy No. 9330 and State Board of Education rules governing student records and with law and State Board of Education rules governing financial records.



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## Staffing (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.8)

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.8, the adult high school shall have an adequate number of professional staff, properly certified for their respective assignments; however, persons involved in adult advisement shall be certified as either a Principal, supervisor, counselor, or teacher. The Board of Education shall assign to professional staff members only position titles recognized in N.J.A.C. 6A:9B, State Board of Examiners and Certification.

## Special Conditions (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.9)

The rules set forth elsewhere in N.J.A.C. 6A governing the operation of a high school within a school district shall govern the operation of an adult high school unless otherwise explicitly stated in this Policy pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.

## Monitoring (N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.10)

Staff of the New Jersey Department of Education's Adult Education Unit shall monitor the adult high school program pursuant to the monitoring process outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:20-1.6. The indicators of program quality with associated measures of performance as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.10(b) shall be used by the monitoring teams in carrying out the monitoring process in adult high schools.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-8; 18A:38-16; 18A:48-1; 18A:50-1 et seq.  
N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.1 et seq.

Adopted:

