

**GRADUATION CEREMONY**

The graduation or commencement ceremony is a time to celebrate the honors and achievements of the graduating class. The Board of Education will establish the date for graduation ceremonies, while the administration will determine the place and program details, including attire. Academic and other awards and scholarships may be presented along with diplomas.

Participation in the graduation ceremony and related activities will be predicated on satisfactory completion of all graduation requirements, or as otherwise described in this policy. Exceptions may be made under extraordinary circumstances with the permission of the Superintendent of Schools. A student who has been awarded either a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOS) or Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC) but has not otherwise qualified for a regents or local diploma may, but is not required to, participate in the graduation ceremony of the student's High School graduating class and related activities. For purposes of this Policy, a student's High School graduating class shall be the twelfth grade class with which such student entered into ninth grade.

A student with a disability who participates in graduation ceremonies by earning a CDOS or SACC is entitled to continue his/her educational program in the District in which the student resides until the end of school year in which the student turns 21 years old, or until the student has earned a Regents or local High School Diploma, whichever occurs first.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations to implement this policy. The District shall provide annual notice to all students and their parents/guardians of the requirements of this policy and associated regulations.

Cross-Reference: 4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities  
4770, Graduation Requirements  
4773, Diploma and Credential Options for Students with Disabilities

Reference: Education Law §3204(4-b)  
8 NYCRR §§100.5; 100.6

Adopted: October 23, 2018

**GRADUATION CEREMONY REGULATION**

A student who has earned either a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOS) or a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC), but not a High School Diploma, shall be permitted, but is not required, to participate in the graduation ceremony and related activities of the student's graduating class.

During the school year in which the ninth grade cohort enters twelfth grade, the High School Building Principal shall submit to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee the name(s) of all students who are on track and expected to earn either a CDOS or SACC, but not a Regents or local High School Diploma, by the time of graduation.

For each student so identified, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall communicate with the student and/or parent/guardian to ascertain whether the student wishes to participate in the graduation ceremony and related activities of that year's graduating class by discussing the matter with the student and/or parent/guardian either in person, in writing, by telephone, or via email.

The District shall provide annual written notice to all students and their parents/guardians of the requirements of this Regulation and associated Policy.

Issued:           October 23, 2018