

**Policy 505.06: Early Graduation****Status:** ADOPTED**Original Adopted Date:** 9/9/1968 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 7/11/22

Generally, students will be required to complete the necessary course work and graduate from high school at the end of grade twelve. Students may graduate prior to this time if they meet the minimum graduation requirements stated in board policy. Early graduation will only be allowed at the completion of a full academic semester.

The parents or guardians must make written application to the Board of Directors requesting the early release.

A student who graduates early will no longer be considered a student and will become an alumnus of the school district. However, the student who graduates early may participate in commencement exercises. The student may not participate in activities such as speech and drama, athletics, music, etc. (Exception: Prom and Banquet). A diploma may be awarded as soon as available or at the regular graduation ceremonies.

***NOTE: This is a mandatory policy. School districts do not have the authority to limit when a student may graduate early. Students can graduate early whenever they meet the school district's graduation requirements. It is recommended that when a student graduates early, the student either gets the diploma or a notice from the school district that the student has graduated. The board should determine in policy how an early graduate will be treated after the student graduates. The board should determine whether the early graduate will be allowed to participate in activities and, if so, which activities.***

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3.  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(5); .5

**I.C. Iowa Code**

Iowa Code § 279.8

Iowa Code § 280.3

**I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code**

281 I.A.C. 12.3

281 I.A.C. 12.5

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