

1 **THE VIRGINIA ASSESSMENT PROGRAM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**
2

3 In accordance with the Virginia Board of Education’s *Regulations Establishing Standards for*
4 *Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* (8VAC20-131-30, 8VAC20-131-110), the following
5 policy has been established.
6

7 The Virginia Board of Education (VBOE) has established educational objectives known as the
8 Standards of Learning (SOLs), which form the core of Virginia’s educational program, and other
9 education objectives, which together are designed to ensure the development of the skills that are
10 necessary for success in school and in preparation for life in the years beyond.
11

12 The Alexandria City School Board (Board) has developed and implemented a program of
13 instruction that is aligned to the Standards of Learning and that meets VBOE requirements of the
14 Virginia Board of Education. It awards diplomas to all secondary school students, including
15 students who transfer from nonpublic schools or from home instruction, who meet the
16 requirements prescribed by the VBOE.
17

18 The Board awards diplomas and certificates in accordance with state laws and regulations. The
19 requirements for a student to earn a diploma and graduate from high school are those in effect
20 when the student enters ninth grade for the first time.
21

22 **Children of Certain Federal Employees**

23 In order to facilitate the on-time graduation of children of federal employees serving under orders
24 pursuant to Title 22 or 50 of the United States Code enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12, the
25 Superintendent or designee

- 26 ● waives specific courses required for graduation if similar coursework has been
27 satisfactorily completed in a local education agency in the state from which the child is
28 sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought or provides reasonable justification for denial
29 of such waiver. If a waiver is not granted to a student who would qualify to graduate in the
30 state from which the student is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought, the school
31 division provides an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation
32 may occur on time; and
- 33 ● accepts, in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in Virginia, (i) exit or end-of-course
34 exams required for graduation from the state from which the student is sent, brought, or
35 caused to be sent or brought, (ii) national norm-referenced achievement tests, or (iii)
36 alternative testing acceptable in Virginia.

37 The parent serving under orders pursuant to Title 22 or 50 of the United States Code must present
38 documents indicating that the parent is required to move in order to perform the parent’s job
39 responsibilities and such move results in the student’s relocation to the school division.
40

41 **Virginia Assessment Program**
42

43 The Virginia Board of Education requires the administration of Virginia Assessment Program tests
44 in third through eighth grade. Each student is expected to take the applicable tests following
45 instruction. Students who are accelerated take the test aligned with the highest grade level,
46 following instruction in the content. No student takes more than one test in any content area in

47 each year, except in the case of expedited retakes as provided for in 8 VAC 20-131-30. Schools
48 will use the test results in third through eighth grade as part of a set of multiple criteria for
49 determining the promotion or retention of students.

50
51 A standard unit of credit for world languages may be awarded based on a waiver of the 140 clock
52 hour requirement as provided in Policy IKFD.

53
54 Upon demonstration of mastery of course content and objectives, the Superintendent or designee
55 may recommend that qualified students may receive a standard unit(s) of credit and be permitted
56 to sit for the relevant SOL Assessment to earn a verified credit(s) without having to meet the 140
57 clock hour requirement, in accordance with Policy IGBG.

58
59 Any student identified as an English Learner (EL) shall participate in the Virginia Assessment
60 Program. Additionally, students with disabilities shall be assessed in accordance with state and
61 federal guidelines. Provisions regarding the participation level of EL students, and any necessary
62 accommodations for students with disabilities are outlined in Regulation IKF-R.

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65 Adopted: January 9, 1997
66 Amended: May 20, 2004
67 Amended: July 1, 2005
68 Amended: June 1, 2006
69 Amended: April 15, 2015
70 Amended: June 23, 2016
71 Amended: December 15, 2016
72 Amended: April 26, 2018

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74
75 Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-253.13:1, 22.1-253.13:4.
76
77 8 VAC 20-131-5.
78 8 VAC 20-131-30.
79 8 VAC 20-131-40.
80 8 VAC 20-131-50.
81 8 VAC 20-131-51.
82 8 VAC 20-131-110.

83
84 Guidelines for Graduation Requirements; Local Alternative Paths to Standard
85 Units of Credit (Virginia Board of Education Oct. 2015).

- 86
87 Cross Refs.: IAA Notification of Learning Objectives
88 IGBF English Learners
89 IGBG Homebound, Correspondence and Alternative Means of Instruction
90 IGBGA Online Courses and Virtual School Programs
91 IKEB Acceleration

92	IKF-R	The Virginia Assessment Program and Graduation Requirements
93		Regulations
94	IKFA	Locally Awarded Verified Credits
95	IKFD	Alternative Paths to Attaining Standard Units of Credit:
96		Credit-by-Exam for World Languages
97	IKFD-R	Credit-by-Exam for World Languages Regulations
98	IKH	Retaking SOL Assessments

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3 **Generally**

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Commented [1]: Per the 2023 amendment of Va. Code § 22.1-253.13:3 by HB 2225/SB 1253.

<https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?231+sum+HB1929>

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