Students

Graduation Procedures and Ceremonies

Commencement Ceremony

Only those students fulfilling all Huntington Beach Union High School District diploma requirements may participate in graduation exercises. The exceptions to this policy are:

1. High school students who have met all course and credit requirements but have not passed one or both parts of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) may participate in the graduation ceremony with their class but will not receive a diploma until both examinations are passed.

2. Students enrolled in special education programs for which the California Alternative Performance Assessment (CAPA) standards are appropriate due to the level of the student's functioning, may receive a Certificate of Educational Achievement and participate in the graduation ceremony, upon completion of four (4) years of high school, commensurate with their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

A non-graduating senior having an approved Education Plan on file may earn a diploma indicating his/her original class providing:

1. All remaining requirements are completed within the Huntington Beach Union High School District.

2. All requirements are completed by October 1 in the same year their class graduates.

High school students who have passed the California High School Proficiency Examination must also meet district graduation requirements in order to participate in graduation ceremonies.

Invocations and/or benedictions shall not be included in graduation ceremonies. Ceremonies or programs involving prayers for graduates shall not be sponsored by the school or district.

Disciplinary Considerations

In order to encourage high standards of student conduct and behavior, the principal may deny the privilege of participating in graduation ceremonies and/or activities in accordance with district and school rules.
Graduation Procedures and Ceremonies (continued)

Honors and Awards

As part of the commencement program, the following students will receive added recognition:

CSF Sealbearers
STAR Achievers
Scholars with Distinction
Scholars with Honors
Scholars with Expertise
Magna Cum Laude (GPA of 4.0-4.39 at the end of the 7th semester).
Summa Cum Laude (GPA of 4.4 or higher at the end of the 7th semester).

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
40014, 48904
51225.5, 51400-51403
51410, 51411, 51412

Lemon v. Kurtzman (1971) 403 U.S. 602
Jones v. Clear Creek Independent School District (1992, 5th Cir.) 977 F.2d 963
Harris v. Joint School District #241 (1994, 9th Cir.) No. 93-35839

Policy adopted: 2/12/87
Revised: 3/11/97
Revised: 4/18/06
Revised: 11/10/09
Revised: 10/9/12