

**The Arizona Move On When Ready Initiative
Standard High School Diploma Pathway
Rationale and Method for Awarding a Standard Diploma
Applies for Students Graduating through 2016**

**Intent and Purpose of Establishing the Standard Diploma Option for
Students in Move On When Ready**

- Give students every opportunity to reach college and career readiness in the Move On When Ready performance-based system, without penalty
- Maintain the spirit and practice of performance-based education
- Make decisions relative to coursework and sequencing based on mastery, not seat time
- Assure students, families, schools, and teachers they can fully commit to a performance-based approach
- Provide students the time and support they need to demonstrate college and career readiness
- Resist the tendency to fall back into a seat time based model
- Assure students they can earn a “standard diploma,” even if they don’t follow a traditional path
- Provide students with a program of study that is equal to or greater than the rigor of the traditional pathway to a high school diploma

**Proposed Method for Awarding a Standard Diploma to
Move On When Ready Students Who May Need the Option**

- The student will pass the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards examinations in mathematics and English or receive a sufficient score as determined by the Board on the ACT, SAT, or an approved board examination in mathematics and English¹
- When the student reaches the college and career readiness qualification scores on the examinations required for Move On When Ready in a given subject area (math, ELA, science, history, fine arts/CTE²), he or she may elect to continue or stop taking classes in that subject area contingent on future plans

¹ This requirement is already stated in current Arizona State Board of Education rule

² For the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of Move On When Ready, students may choose to take fine arts or career and technical education. For fine arts, students will take an examination if available (e.g. through Cambridge IGCSE fine arts

- A student who has not yet reached the college and career readiness qualification scores on the examinations required for Move On When Ready in a given subject area (math, ELA, science, history, fine arts/CTE) will continue to receive instruction through the Board-approved board examination system in the subject area through the end of grade 12, or until he or she reaches the college and career readiness qualification score
- The student will be given fair and ample opportunities to demonstrate college and career readiness
 - The student will take his or her initial examinations required for Move On When Ready no later than the end of his or her third year of high school, to ensure enough time for the school to receive and analyze exam results, and make timely decisions regarding further preparation and personalized supports for the student before he or she graduates
 - A student who does not initially meet the college and career readiness qualification scores on the math and/or ELA examinations will, at a minimum, take the math and/or ELA examinations a second time, providing the student with ample opportunity to receive personalized support from the school in order to demonstrate college and career readiness in these areas, which are essential to student success post high school
- The student will earn 22 credits
 - Credits will be determined on an individual student basis by local education agencies as the student continues within the performance-based system
 - A student may earn more credits in subjects in which they require more time to meet the college and career readiness qualification scores, or fewer credits in subjects in which they demonstrate mastery quickly
 - Specific numbers of credits are not required for specific subject areas
- Regardless of whether or not the student reaches the college and career readiness qualification scores on the examinations required for Move On When Ready, the student, at a minimum, will pass the courses in the core academic subject areas (math, ELA, science, history, fine arts/CTE) within a Board-approved board examination system
- The schools will ensure the student receives instruction in all Board-approved academic standards

courses). If one is not available, then a passing course grade will fulfill the requirement. For CTE, a passing course grade fulfills the requirement.

Reference

Existing State Board Rule Pertaining to a Standard Diploma Pathway for Move On When Ready

Arizona State Board of Education rule R7-2-315.01(F) states:

A student who remains in a board examination system curriculum through grade twelve and does not pass the board examination may graduate with a standard diploma provided that the student meets the following requirements:

- 1. The student has passed the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards examinations in mathematics and English or received a sufficient score as determined by the Board on the ACT, SAT, or an approved board examination in mathematics and English.*
- 2. The student has earned at least 22 credits and has passed a Board-approved sequence of courses within the board examination system curriculum.*

For the purpose of this requirement the private organization and the department of education shall recommend for Board approval a sequence of courses for each approved board examination system. The sequence of courses for each board examination system shall ensure that students receive instruction in all Board-approved academic standards encompassed in R7-2-302.02(1) (a) through (e).