

**MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

**DATE ADOPTED: March 20, 2014      FILE SECTOR: RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**  
**DATE REVISED: February 18, 2016      POLICY TITLE: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**  
**DATE REVISED: January 26, 2017**  
**DATE REVISED: March 15, 2018**

Specific requirements for graduation from Rural Virtual Academy (RVA), under the direction of the Medford Area Public School District (MAPSD) Board of Education and RVA Governance Board, will be published each year in the RVA Student Handbook. Any changes in the requirements shall be approved by the MAPSD Board of Education and the RVA Governance Board prior to implementation.

- In order for students to graduate from the RVA, they must complete twenty-four (24) credits of study and at least three (3) years of high school. In addition to the 15 credits required by state statute, the RVA will require nine (9) elective credits. Students who intend to graduate in less than four (4) years of high school must also meet the requirements outlined in RVA-IKFA.
- Students enrolled in RVA from any participating consortium school district may have different graduation requirements. All students must reference consortium school district policy to ensure all requirements are met in order to graduate and receive a diploma from their consortium school district. Specific courses required in a consortium district which are not available to be taken through the RVA, can have equivalent substitutes approved with the permission of the consortium school counselor and/or administration. If schedules, class size and other factors allow, specific courses can also be taken in-person within the consortium school district.
- Students may earn high school credit towards graduation in grades 7 and/or 8 as outlined in the policy RVA-IGHA.
- Students who participate in at least 95 percent and 90+ hours of a school sponsored sports season, organized physical activity or another recognized state or nationally sanctioned sport may fulfill a .5 credit per semester towards their total 1.5 credits of physical education by fulfilling the requirements outlined in policy RVA-IGHB.
- All regular education students must pass the State's Civics Test requirement. Students with disabilities are required to take the test but are not required to pass.
- Students must complete a minimum of 8 hours of community service for every year he/she is enrolled in the RVA unless otherwise deemed inappropriate by the RVA administrator or his/her designee.

- Students are allowed to take a maximum of 9 credits per school year, excluding summer school. Students electing to take summer school courses for advancement may take a maximum of 1 credit. Students who are deemed to be credit deficient are allowed to exceed the maximum number of credits in any given year per RVA administrator or his/her designee's prior approval.
- Students will be allowed to take college level courses. The RVA Administrator or designee shall determine whether the college course is comparable to a course offered at the RVA, whether it satisfies graduation requirements and what, if any, high school credits are to be awarded to the student. The student must meet the college's requirements and pre-requisites of the course(s) for which they student has applied. Students enrolled in a college approved credit class will receive .25 high school credit for each one (1) credit of college coursework successfully completed. All grades earned will be included in the student's high school transcript and be factored into the student's GPA.
- Study abroad programs which have received prior board approval may be substituted for one of the required three years of enrollment. Students will be required to meet the RVA's graduation requirements. Course work and grades earned by enrolled students as a result of district approved study abroad programs will be reviewed by the administration and guidance officials to determine if they reflect comparable local course work requirements. If comparable, that course work will be incorporated into the transcript being noted as earned outside of the district on a pass/fail basis and will apply toward graduation requirements. Such course work will not be used in determining the student's GPA.

The RVA administrator or his/her designee shall be responsible for the general supervision and management of the graduation policy. The district administrator or his/her designee shall determine whether a student has satisfied the criteria in this policy. High school graduation decisions may be appealed to the district administrator of the consortium district or to the MAPSD superintendent for all students attending through single year shared virtual Learning Service agreements (66.0301) or open enrollment. In the event that there is a disagreement regarding the procedure followed to determine the student's eligibility for a diploma, it may be appealed to the RVA Governance Board for a final determination.

**CROSS REFERENCE: RVA-IKFA, RVA-IGHA, RVA-IGHB**

**LEGAL REFERENCE: 118.33, 121.02(l)(p) Wis. Stats. & PI 18.03, Wis. Admin. Code**