

**DIPLOMA AND CREDENTIAL OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The Board of Education is committed to supporting all students so they are college- and career-ready upon graduation. The Committee on Special Education (CSE), which includes parents/guardians, will work with students with disabilities to attain the appropriate diploma or credential based on their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

**Regents Diploma or Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to work toward the completion of requirements for a Regents diploma or Regents diploma with an advanced designation, as established by New York State and the Board.

**Local Diploma**

Students with disabilities may work toward completion of the requirements of a local diploma. The local diploma may be earned by meeting the standards set forth in state regulations.

**Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential**

Students with disabilities, who are not students with severe disabilities under Commissioner’s Regulations, may be issued a New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOS), pursuant to the requirements of those regulations. The student may pursue a CDOS either in addition to or instead of a high school diploma. The district shall ensure that such students have been provided with appropriate opportunities to earn a high school diploma.

**Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential**

A student who meets the state definition of a student with severe disabilities, who has taken the State assessment for students with severe disabilities, may be issued a skills and achievement commencement credential pursuant to the requirements of Commissioner’s Regulations 8 NYCRR §100.6.

**Continued Right to Educational Services**

If a student receiving a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential or a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential is less than twenty-one years of age, the credential shall be accompanied by a written assurance of the student's continued right to attend public school until the end of the school year in which the student reaches the age of twenty-one or until the student has earned a high school diploma, whichever is earlier.

**Graduation Ceremonies**

Students with disabilities may participate in graduation ceremonies as permitted under state law and described in policy 4772, Graduation Ceremonies.

Cross-ref: 4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities  
4770, Graduation Requirements

4772, Graduation Ceremonies

Ref: 8 NYCRR §§100.1; 100.5; 100.6; 100.9

Effective Date: March 5, 2019