

Curriculum and Instruction
ABLE Board Policy No. 3-CI**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

This policy clarifies requirements for earning a high school diploma at ABLE Charter School. ABLE believes it is essential for students to be fully qualified to pursue a college degree upon graduation. Whether they pursue college or career, full UC A-G certification best prepares them for both options. Enhanced requirements were adopted in 2018 and have been adjusted. To provide maximum flexibility to students enduring the challenges associated with distance learning and COVID-19, student support personnel have recommended the changes herein, and the superintendent concurs.

College and Career-Ready Beliefs: ABLE Believes that

- all students can earn a college degree and pursue a meaningful and fulfilling career;
- all students can attend a college or university of their choice or enter a profession of their choice; and
- dual enrollment coursework during high school elevates critical skills needed for college, career, and life.

Graduation Requirements: To earn a high school diploma at ABLE students must

- earn 220 credits (plus 10 PE credits, see next bullet) in approved coursework within specified disciplines preferably earning a C- or better in each course as required by University of California (UC);
- earn 10 credits in physical education coursework and complete the California physical fitness requirement; and
- complete, present, and defend an ePortfolio¹ during the senior year.

Graduation Requirements by Discipline:

- History/Social Science:
 - World History 10
 - United States History 10
 - United States Government 5
 - Economics 5
- English
 - 4 Full Years 40
- Mathematics
 - Geometry 10
 - Algebra 1 10
 - Algebra 2 10

¹ **ePortfolio** is a website developed by seniors to culminate and commemorate their personal and academic accomplishments at ABLE featuring biographical information, formative reflections on work products and experiences over the years, a summative and more comprehensive reflection of the student's time at ABLE, a resume, and a statement about plans and aspirations for the future. The ePortfolio is developed, presented, and defended at the end of seniors' first semester.

ABLE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Science
 - Physical Science including one-year lab science 20
 - Biology in a lab setting 10
- Language Other Than English (LOTE)
 - 2 Full Years 20
- Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)
 - 1 Full Year 10
- Electives
 - Any combination 60
- Physical Education
 - 1 Full Year 10

230 Credits

Student Progress: Students must be on track to meet graduation requirements. When a student fails to pass a class, those credits must be made up at the earliest possible opportunity. Upon review of students' progress at the end of the sophomore year, students who are behind will be placed on a graduation agreement² to outline the specific steps necessary to get back on track to graduate. A final decision regarding the necessity for a fifth year will be made at the end of the junior year. **Also applies to the class of 2020:** Credit recovery will not be offered to seniors during the spring semester. A senior who fails a class during either semester or who has not made up all required credits by the end of the fall semester will be ineligible to graduate on schedule. Students completing required credit recovery during the summer will be considered as having graduated with their class even though they did not participate in the graduation ceremony; students who complete required credit recovery during the subsequent school year will be eligible to graduate during that school year.

New Students: Students who enroll at ABLE after their freshman year will be assessed in terms of their progress toward ABLE's graduation requirements. A graduation agreement will be generated to address and mitigate, if necessary, requirements for years missed as well as to outline specific steps necessary to be and remain on track to graduate on time. Excessive credit recovery needs do not constitute grounds for denying enrollment to a student; however, enrollment under this condition or any other significant deficiency in progress may render a student unable to graduate on time. These matters will be addressed clearly upon enrollment.

Website Posting: A copy of Graduation Requirements is made available on the ABLE website at www.ablecharter.com.

Adopted: September 16, 2020

² **Graduation Agreement** is a contract among the student, their parent(s)/guardian(s), and ABLE spelling out the specific steps necessary for a student to get back on track or to stay on track to graduate on time – or, instead, to earn a diploma as a fifth year senior.