

**EARLY GRADUATION GUIDELINES  
FOR  
BERLIN HIGH SCHOOL**

The Board supports early graduation as a means to earn a high school diploma. Parental involvement for students under the age of 18 is required. The high school principal shall approve such requests if he/she determines that all state and local graduation requirements will be met and that early graduation is related to career and/or educational plans of the student making the request. Upon approval by the high school principal, the minimum 4 unit requirement per year for enrolled students shall be waived and the student shall be awarded a high school diploma.

Students are expected to take a normal course load and encouraged to spend four years in meeting the graduation requirements for Berlin High School. Early graduation is not encouraged or recommended. However, if early graduation is desired the following requirements are **MANDATORY**.

- A. Meet all Berlin High School's requirements.
- B. Submit to the Principal a written request from the parents by June 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the date of expected completion of course work. A personal interview with guidance and building principal is also required.
- C. State reasons for early graduation. Each request is considered on its own merit.
- D. Attend school at least seven (7) semesters.
- E. Credit from correspondence, trade school, night school, junior college, etc. cannot be used for early graduation unless otherwise approved by the building principal.
- F. Students must inform the principal by November 15<sup>th</sup> if they desire to take part in graduation exercises at the end of the regular school year. Student will have the option to attend commencement exercises in the year they graduate, but will not have the option of returning to another commencement.
- G. Participation in senior activities (trips, picnic, etc.) will be permitted. Early graduation students will be advised of senior picture day prior to leaving school.
- H. Board will be notified by the administration of those students who meet the above criteria.
- I. Students enrolled in a Career & Technical Education two-year program must complete the program before being considered for early graduation.

- J. Students electing to receive a 20 credit State Diploma cannot apply for early graduation. Students who are approved for a 20 credit State of New Hampshire diploma can walk with their graduating class if that student has 9 credits or less by the end of their sophomore year and applied for 20 credit waiver at that time.

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Adopted 11/14/00

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