



## New High Diploma Requirements

The Board of the Indiana Small and Rural Schools Association has analyzed the new revised Diploma Requirements approved by the Indiana State Board of Education. We thank the Indiana Department of Education and the State Board of Education for making progress in addressing Hoosier Stakeholder Concerns. The DOE took time to take input and work within the legislative mandate and rule-making process.

This new diploma increases the credit requirements for Indiana students, increases the expectations for Enlistment, and aligns some of the major expectations for the Employment Diploma. The decrease in Social Studies expectations and the increase in STEM course requirements for graduates should offset and not greatly increase the costs for communities.

The Indiana Small and Rural Schools supports the major changes discussed by DOE to simplify the process for Indiana students and families. The change to make sure all dual credits between public and independent colleges work for all students is an amazing and positive change that will benefit Indiana students and families.

The Indiana Small and Rural Schools supports the implementation of the new diploma requirements for the class of 2029 instead of the class of 2028 as mandated in legislation. The major concerns the board and members expressed included:

- Implementing the new Diploma requirements for new STEM courses.
- Create course curriculum based on the published list by DOE.
- Time for Local School board and community review of new courses
- Finding and training faculty to implement additional STEM Courses.

We look forward to seeing the list of STEM courses approved for this new diploma.

We want to thank Dr. Jenner and the DOE staff for all the time they took to meet with all stakeholders and implement an open and transparent process.

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