

**MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 193
MOUNTAIN HOME, IDAHO 83647**

POLICY

EARLY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

MHSD Board of Trustees understands that there are exceptions to the traditional graduating requirements and procedures; therefore, the MHSD Board of Trustees has adopted the following requirements for high school students to graduate earlier than the spring of their senior year.

At the beginning of the school year, any junior or senior qualified to graduate early must contact their class counselor and school principal to start the early graduation process. Only juniors or seniors who want to graduate early to start their college careers may apply, or if there are extenuating circumstances that qualify as hardship as defined in item #6. Each request will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

1. Only junior and senior high students may apply for early graduation.
2. The student must have or will have prior to the end of 2nd semester of their junior year or 1st semester of their senior year passed their ISAT test/Smarter Balanced Assessment, completed their Senior Project requirements, and completed the required 50 credits as governed by the Graduation Policy and Procedure before or by the end of the school year in which they apply for early graduation.
3. Students are required to take and successfully complete upper level and/or dual credit core courses.
4. The student must have a 3.5 GPA or higher and want to graduate early to start their college career to qualify for early graduation.
 - a. All courses taken through any accredited correspondence and/or virtual high school will be included in the student's transcript no matter if the course was passed or not and will be averaged into the student's GPA.
 - b. The student must also submit an Early Graduation Request Package to the Board of Trustees as described in item #7, and include their plans for secondary education.
5. Students may only have one (1) Petition of Credit(s) on file for non-medical or hardship reasons (see item #6). Students who have filed a Petition of Credit(s) for any other reason or students who have filed more than one (1) Petition of Credit(s) due to medical or hardship reasons are ineligible for early graduation.

or

6. The student must have a hardship case in which early graduation benefits the student and/or student's family provided the student meets all graduation requirements.
 - a. Hardship is defined as:

- The student is relied upon to bring in money to the family through employment.
 - The student is or will be the care provider to sick and/or elderly and/or disabled parents/guardians or other family member living with the student in which the student will be relied upon for assistance.
 - The student will be unable to complete the remainder of the school year due to illness, middle of the school year military transfer, pregnancy, or other permanent or temporary disability.
- b. The student will also be required to submit an Early Graduation Request Package as described in item #7, and include the reason for the hardship and how an early graduation would benefit the student and/or student's family.
7. The student must submit an Early Graduation Request Package to the Board of Trustees no later than the Tuesday before the regularly scheduled October board meeting or if necessary the Tuesday before the next regularly scheduled board meeting. No Early Graduation Request Package will be accepted after the December board meeting, unless a student qualifies in one of the hardship areas listed in item #6.
- a. The request package must contain:
- A formal letter from the student requesting early graduation and explaining the reason for wanting the early graduation along with their proposed secondary education plans for after graduation.
 - A formal letter from the student's parents/guardian giving the reason for their support of their student graduating early.
 - A formal letter from the student's counselor supporting the student's early graduation request.
 - A formal letter from the school principal supporting the student's early graduation request.
 - A copy of the latest high school transcript and/or report card, the most current college transcript(s) reflecting the course/credit information from courses the student has enrolled in, and any current transcripts from online courses the student has enrolled in.
 - A copy of the latest attendance record.
 - A copy of the student's demographics reflecting the student's full name, grade, address, and parent's names.
 - Any other pertinent information that might help the Board with their decision.
8. The student and student's parents or guardian must attend the regular board meeting in which Early Graduation will be addressed during the Executive Session of the board meeting.
- a. The student will be notified by the high school of the date and time to appear before the board meeting; the student and parents/guardians are welcome to attend the entire board meeting if they wish.

Legal Reference: Idaho Code 33-1623

ADOPTED: April 19, 2011

Revised: November 15, 2011

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