

SBE Rule 0520-01-03 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*The changes to this rule are consistent with the changes that are currently in promulgation.

0520-01-03-.05(3)(c)

Local school systems shall use the following uniform grading system for students enrolled in grades nine through twelve (9-12). Students’ grades shall be reported for the purposes of application for postsecondary financial assistance administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation using the uniform grading system.

| Uniform Grading System – Weighting for Advanced Coursework | | | | |
|--|----------|---|--|--|
| Grade | % Range | Honors Courses & National Industry Certification | Statewide Dual Credit Courses | Advanced Placement, <u>Cambridge</u> , & International Baccalaureate |
| A | 93 – 100 | May include the addition of three (3) percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average. | May include the addition of four (4) percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average. | May include the addition of five (5) percentage points to the grades used to calculate the semester average. |
| B | 85 – 92 | | | |
| C | 75 – 84 | | | |
| D | 70 – 74 | | | |
| F | 0 – 69 | | | |

Assigning additional quality points above 4.0 for honors courses, AP, Cambridge, IB, and National Industry Certification courses is not allowed for the purpose of determining eligibility for the lottery scholarships.

0520-01-03-.05(3)(e)(3)

2. Local education agencies may elect to offer Advanced Placement, Cambridge International Examinations, and International Baccalaureate courses. If Advanced Placement, Cambridge International Examinations, and International Baccalaureate courses are offered, the local education agency shall annually approve a list of such courses. This list of approved courses shall be made readily available to the public. Local education agencies will ensure that approved courses substantially incorporate the learning objectives and course descriptions as defined by the College Board, Cambridge International Examinations, or International Baccalaureate Agency Organization.

Each local education agency shall adopt policies for the approved Advanced Placement courses, Cambridge International Examinations courses, and International Baccalaureate courses that have end-of-course national examinations that may allow for the addition of 5 points to all grades used to calculate semester averages. Only Advanced Placement, Cambridge International Examinations, and International Baccalaureate courses that have end-of-course national examinations qualify for the addition of five (5) points.

0520-01-03-.06(1)(c)

1. School systems may design student recognition programs that allow students to graduate with honors if they have met the graduation requirements and have obtained an overall grade point average of at least a 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. School systems may set a higher GPA at their discretion. School systems may specify additional requirements, such as requiring students to demonstrate performance of distinction in one (1) or more areas.

Students who score at or above all the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT will graduate with state honors.

2. Each local school board shall develop a policy prescribing how students graduating with “state honors” will be noted and recognized.

3. Students will be recognized as graduating with “state distinction” by attaining a B or better average and completing one of the following:

(i) earn a nationally recognized industry certification

(ii) participate in at least one (1) of the Governor’s Schools

(iii) participate in one (1) of the state’s ALL State musical organizations

(iv) be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist

(v) attain a score of thirty one (31) or higher composite score on the ACT

(vi) attain a score of three (3) or higher on at least two advanced placement exams

(vii) successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma

Programme

(viii) earn twelve (12) or more semester hours of transcribed postsecondary

credit

(iv) successfully complete the Cambridge International Examinations Pathway to TN Diploma

Each local school board shall develop a policy prescribing how students graduating with “state distinction” will be noted and recognized.