

Graduation Substitutions Policy 3.103

The Background:

The State Board's Graduation Substitutions Policy 3.103 outlines allowable course substitutions for graduation requirement credits.

This item clarifies that students may complete their required 4th credit of math and 3rd credit of science at any point during high school as long as they meet the course requirements outlined in State Board of Education Graduation Requirements Rule 0520-01-03-.06. This item also makes minor clarifying edits to the course substitution descriptions for English III and IV, and Personal Finance.

Between first and final reading, revisions were made to clarify the allowability for JROTC I, II, and III to substitute for Lifetime Wellness, Physical Education, and Personal Finance or U.S. Government and Civics based on feedback from districts. Revisions specify that students may substitute JROTC I for one (1) credit of Lifetime Wellness, JROTC II for one-half (1/2) credit of Physical Education, and JROTC III for one-half (1/2) credit of Personal Finance or one-half (1/2) credit of U.S. Government and Civics.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Postsecondary and Career outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring policy language regarding graduation credits and substitutions is clear for districts and schools.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.

