

OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
June 14-15, 2012

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION

34. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise process standards in the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2010*

On June 7, 2012, the Commission on School Accreditation approved revisions to process standards 4, 19, 20, and Appendix A and D, of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2010*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

APPENDIX A-1

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 20

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009, 2009-2010 & 2010-2011 (Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006, 2006-2007, 2007-2008)

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following table. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for Secondary Schools of Mississippi*. (See SB Policies 2902 and 2903.) Enrollment in on-line and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of an approved correspondence course.

~~Elective courses that do not have identified content in the Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks or whose titles do not appear in the current edition of Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi must be approved according to criteria stated in Appendix D.~~

Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as specified below and has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4 ¹	
MATHEMATICS	4 ²	Algebra I
SCIENCE	3 ³	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	3	1 World History ⁴ 1 U.S. History ⁴ ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies ⁵
HEALTH	½ ^{6 & 7}	Comprehensive Health <i>or</i> Family and Individual Health
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY	1 ⁸	1 Computer Discovery or ½ Keyboarding and ½ Computer Applications
THE ARTS	1	Any approved 500.000 course or completion of the 2-course sequence for Computer Graphics Technology I and II
ELECTIVES	4½ ⁹	
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	21	

APPENDIX A-1 (Continued)
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 20

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009, 2009-2010 & 2010-2011
(Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006, 2006-2007 & 2007-2008)

¹ Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 4½ general electives required for graduation. MYP-English I and MYP English II are accepted in lieu of the English I and English II requirements for students enrolled in the IB program.

² Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 4½ general electives required for graduation. Beginning school year 2004-2005 for all entering eighth graders, at least one of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. MYP Geometry, MYP Algebra II, IB-DP Mathematics I, IB-DP Mathematics II, IB-DP Mathematical Studies I, IB-DP Mathematical Studies II are allowable mathematics courses higher than Algebra I for IB students.

³ One unit may be in Introduction to Agriscience, Concepts of Agriscience, Science of Agricultural Plants, Science of Agricultural Animals, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Plastics and Polymer Science I & II; and Technology Applications I & II. Two units may be earned by completing the following AEST 3-course sequence: one unit in Concepts of Agriscience; one unit in Science of Agricultural Animals or Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment; and one unit in Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship. IB-DP Physics I, IB-DP Physics II, MYP Chemistry, and IB-DP Chemistry may be accepted as allowable lab-based physical science courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP Biology and IB-DP Biology I may be accepted in lieu of the Biology I requirement for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁴ **Based on the 2004 Mississippi Social Studies framework,** AP European History or AP World History can be accepted in lieu of World History. Advanced placement U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from 1877 to present. AP Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course. A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U. S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

Based on the 2011 Mississippi Social Studies framework, A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from the Age of Enlightenment to Present course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from Post-reconstruction to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course, A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course, A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U.S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

⁵ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.

⁶ Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health.

⁷ Successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and thereafter, when instruction includes all health components in the JROTC curriculum.

⁸ Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational). Information & Computer Technology (ICT) II may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery. A Carnegie unit earned for Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) in the 8th or 9th grade meets this graduation requirement. Technology Foundations replaces Computer Discovery. Keyboarding and Computer Applications and meets this graduation requirement when taken in grades 8-12. MYP Computer Discovery may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁹ Elective units in physical education include participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, performance choral, dance and JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

APPENDIX A-2

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 20

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009, and thereafter)

Each student graduating from a secondary school in an accredited school district will have earned the required Carnegie units as specified in the following table. Contents of each required and elective course must include the core objectives identified in the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks*. Course titles and identification numbers must appear in the current edition of *Approved Courses for Secondary Schools of Mississippi*. (See SB Policies 2902 and 2903) Enrollment in on-line and correspondence courses listed in this book must have prior approval granted by the principal. No more than one of the minimum required number of units may be earned through completion of approved correspondence course. ~~Elective courses that do not have identified content in the Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks or whose titles do not appear in the current edition of Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi must be approved according to criteria stated in Appendix D.~~

Any student who completes the minimum graduation requirements as specified below and has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations is eligible to receive a high school diploma. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

Beginning school year 2008-2009 and thereafter, all entering ninth graders (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) will be required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified below, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-2 requirements in accordance with local school board policy. Any student who is taken out of these requirements of Appendix A-2 will be required to complete the graduation requirements as specified in Appendix A-1. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4 ¹	English I English II
MATHEMATICS	4 ²	Algebra I
SCIENCE	4 ³	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	4	1 World History ⁴ 1 U.S. History ⁴ ½ Geography ⁴ ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ⁵ ½ Mississippi Studies ⁶
HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 ^{7&8}	½ Comprehensive Health <i>or</i> ½ Family & Individual Health and ½ Physical Education ^{9&11}
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY	1 ¹⁰	1 Computer Discovery <i>or</i> ½ Keyboarding and ½ Computer Applications
THE ARTS	1	Any approved 500.000 course <i>or</i> completion of the 2-course sequence for Computer Graphics Technology I and II
ELECTIVES	5 ¹¹	
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	24	

APPENDIX A-2 (Continued)
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
STANDARD 20
SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012
(Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009, and thereafter)

¹Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation. Accelerated English 9 can be accepted in lieu of English I. Accelerated English 10 and AP English Language Composition can be accepted in lieu of English II. Beginning school year 2010-2011 for all entering ninth graders, English I is a required prerequisite course for English II. English I may not be taken after a student completes English II.

²Compensatory Mathematics, Introduction to Engineering, and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra may not be taken after a student completes Algebra I. Beginning school year 2007-2008 for all entering eighth graders, at least two of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. Effective with ninth graders of 2010-2011, Survey of Mathematical Topics may not be included in the two math courses higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics. MYP Geometry, MYP Algebra II, IB-DP Mathematics I, IB-DP Mathematics II, IB-DP Mathematical Studies I, IB-DP Mathematical Studies II are allowable mathematics courses higher than Algebra I for IB students. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Survey of Mathematical Topics; however this course does not meet the mathematics requirement for admission to institutions of higher learning. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the seventh graders of 2012-13, Pre Algebra, Algebra I, Biology I, ICT II (Information and Communication Technology) and first year Foreign Language may be taken in the seventh grade for Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is the same as the high school course. Effective with the 8th graders of 2012-13, second year Foreign Language and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), may be taken in the 8th grade for Carnegie unit credit provided the course content is the same as the high school course.

³ One unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience, and a second unit may be in completing 2 of the following 3 courses: Science of Agriculture Plants, Science of Agriculture Animals, ~~Science~~ Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the required course sequence ending with Agriscience II, Allied Health II, Aquaculture II, Forestry II, Plastics and Polymer Science II, Technology Applications II, Polymer Science II or Careers in Polymer Science, Horticulture II or Horticulture Landscape and Turfgrass, Engineering II or Applied Engineering Concepts, Health Sciences I or Workplace and Employment Skills in Health Sciences.

Beginning school year 2008-2009 for all entering eighth graders, one unit must be a lab-based physical science. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, and AP Physics C – Mechanics. IB-DP Physics I, IB-DP Physics II, MYP Chemistry, and IB-DP Chemistry may be accepted as allowable lab-based physical science courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP Biology and IB-DP Biology I may be accepted in lieu of the Biology I requirement for students enrolled in an IB program.

⁴ **Based on the 2004 Mississippi Social Studies framework,** Advanced Placement Human Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from 1877 to Present course. A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from 1795 to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course. MYP World Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course for

students enrolled in the IB program. Advanced placement U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from 1877 to Present. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History Course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U.S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program. AP European History or AP World History can be accepted in lieu of World History.

Based on the 2011 Mississippi Social Studies framework, A.P. World History can be accepted in lieu of the required World History from the Age of Enlightenment to Present course. A.P. United States History can be accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History from Post-reconstruction to Present course. A.P. Government and Politics: United States can be accepted in lieu of the required United States Government course. A.P. Macroeconomics or A.P. Microeconomics can be taken in lieu of the required Economics course. A.P. Human Geography can be accepted in lieu of the required Geography course. MYP World Geography is accepted in lieu of the required Geography course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas I is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History course for students enrolled in the IB program. IB-DP History of the Americas II is accepted in lieu of the required Mississippi Studies, Economics, and/or U.S. Government courses for students enrolled in the IB program. MYP U.S. Government is accepted in lieu of the required Government course for students enrolled in the IB program.

⁵ Credit earned for Business Fundamentals or Business Fundamentals II may be accepted in lieu of ½ unit in Economics.

⁶ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.

⁷ Credit earned in Allied Health I, Health Sciences I, or Theory and Application of Health Sciences I, may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health.

⁸ Successful completion of JROTC I and JROTC II may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and thereafter.

⁹ The graduation requirement for ½ unit in physical education may include participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, dance and JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

¹⁰ Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational). ICT II may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery. A Carnegie unit earned for Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) in the 8th or 9th grade meets this graduation requirement. Technology Foundations replaces Computer Discovery, Keyboarding and Computer Applications and meets this graduation requirement when taken in grades 8-12. MYP Computer Discovery may be accepted in lieu of Computer Discovery for students enrolled in an IB program.

¹¹ Only one elective unit in physical education including participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, performance choral, dance or JROTC that meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association may be applied each year to the minimum 24 required state units. If a local district has graduation requirements above the state requirements they may award additional credits as outlined in the local Board policy.

APPENDIX A-3

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 20

CAREER PATHWAY OPTION SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (Entering eleventh graders in 2010-2011)

In 2010, Mississippi state policymakers passed legislation to create multiple pathways to a standard diploma. The 2010 legislative actions created a career pathway to a standard diploma, with the goal of improving Mississippi graduation rates and providing students with career and technical training that prepare students for postsecondary credential or certification programs and employable workplace skills. This legislative change created Section 37-16-17, *Mississippi code of 1972*, as amended to provide for high school career option programs and career track curricula for students not wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4 ¹	English I English II
MATHEMATICS	3 ²	Algebra I
SCIENCE	3 ³	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 ^{4, 5}	1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies
HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION	½ ⁶	½ Comprehensive Health, or ½ Family and Individual Health, or ½ Physical Education
CAREER and TECHNICAL	4 ⁷	(Selected from Student's Program of Study)
INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY	1 ⁸	Computer Discovery, ICT II, 9 th STEM, or Computer Applications and Keyboarding
ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES	2 ½ ⁹	Courses selected from the student's approved program of study
TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED	21 ¹⁰	

NOTE: Mississippi's Institution of Higher Learning requirements differ from minimum graduation requirements for this diploma pathway.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Standard 20

Career Pathway Option

SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012

(Entering eleventh graders 2010-2011)

¹ Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing shall not be included in the four English courses required for graduation. The two additional English credits must be from the student's program of study which includes Technical Writing, Creative Writing, English III, English IV, or any college-level dual credit courses.

² Compensatory Mathematics may not be included in the three mathematics courses required for graduation. Effective with eighth graders of 2008-2009, Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra may not be taken after a student completes Algebra I. For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one of the required mathematics courses must be above Algebra I and selected from the student's program of study. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Survey of Mathematical Topics, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics, or any college-level dual credit courses. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

³ For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one of the required science courses must be above Biology I and selected from the student's program of study. If a student's program of study allows, one unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience (AEST). A second science unit may be earned by completing a two course sequence selected from the following three options: Science of Agricultural Animals, Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Health Science I & II, Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Polymer Science I & II; Technology Applications I & II and Engineering I & II.

⁴ Advanced placement U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History 1877 to Present. The third social studies credit should be selected based on the student's program of study.

⁵ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course. Credit earned for the first year of Marketing and Economics (Vocational) may be accepted in lieu of ½ unit in Economics.

⁶ Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health. Interscholastic athletic activities, band, and ROTC if they meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* may also be accepted.

⁷ Career and Technical (CTE) courses must be based on the student's program of study and should include dual credit/dual enrollment options as found in Section 37-15-38 of the Mississippi Code of 1972.

⁸ Evidence of proficiency in technology is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in a technology-rich academic or career technical course related to their program of study.

⁹ Electives must be selected from courses related to the student's program of study. Credits earned not approved for that student's program of study will not be counted toward graduation requirements.

¹⁰ See the following web site for information concerning equivalency course allowances for all career and technical education and how to record information on a student's transcript. (TBA)

APPENDIX D

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Courses that are to be offered above the minimum required Carnegie units and that are not listed in the current edition of *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi*, as provided for in State Board of Education Policies 2902 and 2903, must meet the criteria outlined in 1.0 through 5.0 below in order to qualify for credit toward graduation. However, in the event that the local school district wishes to implement a course that is nationally or regionally recognized, then the Office of Curriculum and Instruction may approve that course for use in that district for one year by meeting the following conditions:

- the course has a well-defined curriculum, and the local school district wishes to implement the course on a pilot basis;
- the local board of education has approved that implementation for one year; and
- the appropriate Mississippi Department of Education office agrees with the district request.

During that year, appropriate MDE staff will visit the district and review the course implementation. If the course clearly meets the intent of the course development requirements (1.0 through 5.0), then it may be recommended for continued use in the district. If it does not meet the requirements, it will not be approved a second year. However, it may be submitted by the district under the criteria for course approval (1.0 through 5.0).

The required information must be attached to the application. Each required attachment should be marked with the appropriate reference number. Omission of any of this information will cause this application to be returned to the district for revisions and resubmitted prior to the October deadline date in order for the course to be considered.

1.0 Definitions

- 1.1 **Course**—an organized set of competencies and suggested objectives within an academic discipline offered for a period of time (semester or school year) for which a student receives academic credit.
- 1.2 **Developmental Course**—a course designed to be taught in any grade 7-12 (or any combination of grades 7-12 served within a school) that does not appear as an approved course in the current edition of *Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi* published by the Office of Curriculum and Instruction but is in the approval-seeking process as initiated by said school district to be taught in said school district.

2.0 Preliminary Approval Criteria

- 2.1 A district must have the approval of the local school board before submitting a course to the Commission for approval.
- 2.2 Courses must not be alternatives or replacements for any State Board of Education basic course requirements (Appendix B) or graduation requirements (Appendix A) or Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning student admission requirements (Appendix C).
- 2.3 Courses submitted for approval must meet during the teaching day.

3.0 Application/Approval Procedure/Adoption

- 3.1.1 Application for approval of local developmental courses must be made by the third Monday of October.
- 3.1.2 Applications will be reviewed according to preliminary criteria listed in 2.0 and content criteria listed in 4.0.
- 3.1.3 The Office of Curriculum and Instruction will notify districts of the status of the course.
- 3.1.4 Approval for local developmental courses will be a one-year process, commencing with the beginning of the next school year following approval.
- 3.1.5 At the conclusion of the school year, a summative evaluation is required (deadline June 30).

4.0—Application Content

- 4.1—Application for local developmental course approval will be made on forms provided by the Office of Curriculum and Instruction. The application will include the following:
 - 4.1.1—Course title
 - 4.1.2—Academic discipline(s)
 - 4.1.3—Required teacher licensure
 - 4.1.4—Pre-requisite courses for enrollment
 - 4.1.5—Carnegie unit credit for course
 - 4.1.6—Grade levels to be served
 - 4.1.7—Number of minutes per day/week instruction is to be given
 - 4.1.8—Budget
- 4.2—The instructional management plan for the developmental course will be submitted and must contain the following:
 - 4.2.1—Course design—The course design will indicate the content of the course.
 - 4.2.2—Course description—The course description will adhere to the format of the current discipline framework for which the course is being submitted. Failure to do so will result in the application being returned to the district for revisions, and the application must be resubmitted prior to the deadline date. The description will consist of the following:
 - Competencies/Strand objectives
 - Suggested objectives/Content objectives
 - Suggested student and teacher activities
 - Suggested assessment strategies
 - Resources
 - 4.2.3—Course evaluation plan—The evaluation plan will include how the district will determine the success of and need for the course during the pilot period (year one).
- 4.3—A written narrative detailing the following will be submitted:
 - 4.3.1—Why the course is being initiated
 - 4.3.2—How the needs assessment was conducted
 - 4.3.2—How many people responded to the needs assessment
- 4.4—Projected expenditure budget for this course for one fiscal year. (Detailed costs should include equipment, supplies, etc.)

5.0—Curriculum Structure Validation

- 5.1—At the end of the pilot year, the school district will submit a final summative evaluation report to the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Curriculum and Instruction, no later than June 30.
- 5.2—Upon receipt of the final evaluation report, the course will be reviewed to determine if it should be recommended for continued use. The following will be considered:
 - 5.2.1—Course information appears complete and accurate:
 - 5.2.1.1—Major purpose of course is clearly stated and appropriate.
 - 5.2.1.2—Competencies are indicated and appropriate.
 - 5.2.1.3—Objectives that were added or deleted as a result of evaluation data are indicated.
 - 5.2.2—Course activities are complete
 - 5.2.2.1—Competencies/Strand objectives are defined.
 - 5.2.2.2—Suggested objectives/Content objectives are defined.
 - 5.2.2.3—Suggested student and teacher strategies are appropriate.
 - 5.2.2.4—Suggested assessment strategies are appropriate.
 - 5.2.2.5—Appropriate resources are given.



PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2010

Proposed Process Standard Revisions

Issues/Proposed Resolutions

Approved by the Commission on School Accreditation June 7, 2012

Presented to the State Board of Education
Instructional Enhancement Sub-Committee
April 20, 2012 and May 18, 2012

Standard 4

The school district employs an appropriately licensed full-time principal at each school. {MS Code 37-9-7, 37-9-15, and 37-151-5(g)}

Proposed Language:

The school district employs an appropriately licensed full-time principal at each school. {MS Code 37-9-7, 37-9-15, and 37-151-5(g)}

NOTE: The principal may not have any other job duties assigned in areas that require a specific work area code. This standard does not apply to assistant principals.

Rationale:

The original intent of this standard was for principals to be employed full-time (100%) with no additional job duties. Other job duties such as district/school test coordinator, athletic director, coach, bus driver, etc. do not allow the principal to focus full-time on instructional practices.

Standard 19

The academic year provides a minimum of 180 teaching days in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction for not less than sixty percent (60%) of the normal school day. {MS Code 37-3-49, 37-13-61 through 69, 37-151-5(j), and 37-151-7(3)(c)}

Mississippi code of 1972
As Amended

SEC. 37-13-61. Date of opening of school term; annual school calendar; length of school term.

The State Board of Education shall have the power and authority to fix the date for the opening of the school term in all schools in the state, and shall promulgate guidelines for an annual school calendar to be observed by all public school districts. Provided, however, that local school boards are authorized to keep school in session in excess of the minimum number of days prescribed herein.

SOURCES: Codes, 1942, Sec. 6274-09, 6411-12; Laws, 1953, Ex Sess, ch. 16, Sec. 9; ch. 23, Sec.12; 1981, ch. 499, Sec 9; 1986, ch. 492, Sec. 85, eff from and after July 1, 1987.

SEC.37-13-63. Minimum length of school term.

(1) All public schools in the state shall be kept in session for at least one hundred eighty (180) days in each scholastic year.

(2) If the school board of any school district shall determine that is not economically feasible or practicable to operate any school within the district for the full one hundred eighty (180) days required for a scholastic year as contemplated due to an enemy attack, a manmade, technological or national disaster in which the Governor has declared a disaster emergency under the laws of this state or the President of the United States has declared an emergency or major disaster to exist in this state, said school board may notify the State Department of Education of such disaster and submit a plan for altering the school term. If the State Department of Education finds such disaster to be the cause of the school not operating for the contemplated school term and that such school was in a school district covered by the Governor's or President's disaster declaration, it may permit **said** school board to operate the schools in its district for less than one hundred either (180) days.

Proposed Language:

The academic year provides a minimum of 180 teaching days in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction. {MS Code 37-3-49, 37-13-61 through 69, 37-151-5(j), and 37-151-7(3)(c)}

Rationale:

Many districts with only 180 days in the school calendar release school as early as 10:00 a.m. on the day before Christmas holidays and the last day of school. This is a violation of 37-13-67 because to be considered a school day, there must be a minimum of 5 hours of instruction provided.

Standard 19.3

The school district must ensure that during the academic school year a minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each $\frac{1}{2}$ unit offered, except for accelerated learning programs and remedial instructional programs that are proficiency based. A traditional 7-period day schedule must provide at least 48 minutes per period, and A/B and 4 x 4 block schedules must provide at least 94 minutes.

Proposed Language:

The school district must ensure that during the academic school year a minimum of 140 hours of instruction is provided for each Carnegie unit of credit offered and 70 hours for each $\frac{1}{2}$ unit offered, except for remedial instructional programs, dual enrollment/dual credit, correspondence courses, MS Virtual Public School courses, and innovative programs authorized by the State Board of Education.

Add the definition for remedial instructional programs to the glossary of the MS Public School Accountability Standards.

Definition:

Remedial instructional programs: *Programs designed to provide interventions and supports for students who have been unsuccessful in mastering content/skills.*

Rationale:

Change the language of the standard to provide additional clarity.

Standard 19.4

No more than two of the required 180 days may be 60% days, unless the district is utilizing an Early Release schedule that provides at least 27.5 hours per five-day week provided that there are at least 198 minutes of actual instruction/or testing and the remainder of each 60% day is used for professional development or other activities related to instruction.
{MS Code 37-151-5(j)}

Mississippi code of 1972
As Amended

SEC. 37-151-5. Definitions.

(j) “Minimum school term” shall mean a term of at least one hundred eighty (180) days of school in which both teachers and pupils are in regular attendance for scheduled classroom instruction for not less than sixty percent (60%) of the normal school day. It is the intent of the Legislature that any tax levies generated to produce additional local funds required by any school district to operate school terms in excess of one hundred seventy-five (175) days shall not be construed to constitute a new program for the purposes of exemption from the limitation on tax revenues as allowed under Sections [37-39-321](#) and [37-57-107](#) for new programs mandated by the Legislature.

Proposed Language:

No more than two of the required 180 days may be 60% days. Both teachers and pupils must be in attendance for not less than 60% of the normal school day.

Many districts utilizing early release schedules do not use the remaining portion of the early release day for professional development or other alternatives related to instruction, but rather as an early release day for everyone.

Standard 20

20. The school district requires each student, in order to receive a high school diploma, to have met the requirements established by its local board of education and by the State Board of Education. {MS Code 37-16-7} (SB Policy 3800)

20.1 Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has earned the minimum number of Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A. (See Appendix A.) (SB Policies 2902 and 2903)

- Seniors of school year 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008 are required to have a minimum of 20 Carnegie units.
- Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006 and thereafter (seniors of school year 2008-2009 and later) are required to have a minimum of 21 Carnegie units.
- Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009 and thereafter (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) are required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A-2, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-2 requirements.

20.2 Each student receiving a standard diploma has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations. {MS Code-37-16-7} (SB Policy 3800)

20.3 Each student who has completed the secondary curriculum for special education may be issued a special diploma or certificate of completion, which states: "This student has successfully completed an Individualized Education Program." {MS Code 37-16-11(1)}

20.4 The student who fails to meet the graduation requirements is not permitted to participate in the graduation exercises.

20.5 Each student with disabilities receiving a Mississippi Occupational Diploma has successfully completed all minimum requirements established by the State Board of Education. {MS Code 37-16-11(2)} (See Appendix G.)

Note: Carnegie units will be awarded in the eighth grade for the following courses: Algebra I, Pre-algebra, Transition to Algebra, Computer Discovery, Geometry, ICT II (Information & Communication Technology), First Year Foreign Language, and Second Year Foreign Language provided course content is the same as the high school course.

Proposed Language:

20. *The school district requires each student, in order to receive a high school diploma, to have met the requirements established by its local board of education and by the State Board of Education. {MS Code 37-16-7}*
- 20.1 *Each student receiving a standard high school diploma has earned the minimum number of Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A. (See Appendix A.) (SB Policies 2902 and 2903)*
- *Seniors of school year 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008 are required to have a minimum of 20 Carnegie units.*
 - *Entering ninth graders in 2005-2006 and thereafter (seniors of school year 2008-2009 and later) are required to have a minimum of 21 Carnegie units.*
 - *Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009 and thereafter (seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later) are required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified in Appendix A-2, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-2 requirements.*
- 20.2 *Each student receiving a standard diploma has achieved a passing score on each of the required high school exit examinations. {MS Code-37-16-7}*
- 20.3 *Each student who has completed the secondary curriculum for special education may be issued a special diploma or certificate of completion, which states: "This student has successfully completed an Individualized Education Program." {MS Code 37-16-11(1)}*
- 20.4 *The student who fails to meet the graduation requirements is not permitted to participate in the graduation exercises.*
- 20.5 *Each student with disabilities receiving a Mississippi Occupational Diploma has successfully completed all minimum requirements established by the State Board of Education. {MS Code 37-16-11(2)} (See Appendix G.)*

Note: Carnegie units may be awarded in the seventh grade for the following courses: Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Biology I, ICT II (Information and Communication Technology) and first year Foreign Language provided course content is the same as the high school course.

Note: Carnegie units may be awarded in the eighth grade for the following courses: Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, Biology I, ICT II (Information and Communication Technology), STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Science), first year Foreign Language, and second year Foreign Language provided the course content is the same as the high school course.

Rationale:

Carnegie units are awarded to students only in eighth grade. The MDE is receiving numerous requests to issue Carnegie unit credit to seventh grade students so that students may be introduced to more rigorous curriculum in earlier grades.