



## VCCS Accepted Diploma Types for High School Equivalency\*

### **Advanced Studies**

- ✓ students must complete 24 units of academic work as outlined in the DOE regulations plus 9 verified credits if entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade before 2011-12
- ✓ students must complete 26 units of academic work as outlined in the DOE regulations plus 9 verified credits if entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade from 2011-12 onward
- ✓ students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade from 2013-14 onward must also complete a virtual course

### **Standard**

- ✓ students must complete 22 units of academic work as outlined in the DOE regulations plus 6 verified credits
- ✓ Students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade from 2013-14 onward must also earn a board-approved career/tech credential and complete a virtual course
- ✓ Beginning with students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2013-14 this will also include those previously receiving Modified Standard diplomas and may include modified requirements for students with disabilities on IEPs

### **Modified Standard** – *not available for students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade from 2013 onward*

- ✓ students with a disability, as identified on their IEP, who are unlikely to complete the requirements for a standard diploma
- ✓ students must complete 20 units of academic work as outlined in the DOE regulations and demonstrate numeracy and literacy (pass 8<sup>th</sup> grade math and English)

### **General Achievement Diploma GAAHSD (formerly GAD)**

- ✓ students must be 18 years of age and not currently enrolled in high school and not subject to the compulsory attendance requirements
- ✓ Requirements for earning the GAAHSD include prescribed standard units of credit; a passing score on a high school equivalency examination approved by the Virginia Board of Education; and the attainment of a Board-approved career and technical education credential.
- ✓ Standard credits required for the GAAHSD may be earned in a variety of educational settings, including public school; community college, adult high school program; or approved distance education courses.

### **General Education Development Certificates (GED)**

- ✓ High School Equivalency (HSE) test by ACE
- ✓ The newer DOE-approved HiSET and TASC are also accepted as high school equivalency

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**The below awards DO NOT constitute high school graduation.** Therefore, students applying to VCCS colleges must complete an **ability to benefit (ATB) test** for admissions.

### **Applied Studies Diploma (formerly Special Diploma)**

- ✓ students with disabilities who complete the requirements of their IEP but don't meet the requirements for named diplomas.

### **Certificate of Program Completion**

- ✓ students who complete a prescribed program of studies as defined by the local board but do not qualify for a diploma. These students may or may not have an IEP.

**NOTE:** This document does NOT apply to Home School, Out of State, Online School, or Private School Diplomas.

\*In accordance with the Virginia Department of Education's website: <https://www.doe.virginia.gov/parents-students/for-students/graduation/diploma-options>