

## CTE Courses That Meet Core Content (Graduation) Requirements

The district/charter (Local Education Agency – LEA) may offer graduation requirement credit for CTE courses upon meeting one of the following:

### 1. CTE EDUCATOR HOLDS PROPER ENDORSEMENT TO TEACH THE CTE ASSIGNMENT

- a. If the CTE educator holds the proper endorsement **to teach the CTE assignment**, the district can award graduation credit without requiring that the teacher pursue a non-CTE (i.e.: mathematics, science, etc.) endorsement. [IDAPA 08.0203.105](#) has been clarified to allow LEA-approved CTE assignments to qualify as alternative assignments to meet core content (graduation) requirements. **Necessary LEA actions include:**
  - i. **Standards alignment.** The LEA implements the steps necessary to ensure that the assignment or series of assignments/activities not only encompass the **CTE program pathway standards**, but also the **locally established subject area standards** (using state content standards as minimum requirements) for the core content requirement regardless of the combination of assignments taken. In other words, the district is responsible to ensure that the alternative CTE assignment or combination of assignments, including the CTE assignment, meets the minimum of state content standards for the given core-content area.
  - ii. **LEA board approval.** Depending on local board policy, the LEA may need to formally approve the CTE assignment to satisfy a core content requirement.
  - iii. **Continue to code CTE assignments with six-digit CTE ISEE codes.** The LEA must continue to code the CTE assignment with the six-digit code when reporting in ISEE to qualify for CTE Added-Cost funding.
  - iv. **Create transcript notations indicating CTE assignments meet given core content requirements.** The LEA needs to create its own transcript notations, where necessary, to signify the CTE assignment as meeting a specific graduation requirement. For example, use an “\*” and footnote to indicate the “182040 Agricultural Economics\*” assignment meets “\*Meets economics and financial literacy core content requirement.”
  - v. **One elective OR core requirement credit per assignment.** The LEA may award only one (1) credit per successful semester to any given student. The district can report the CTE course in ISEE with the CTE assignment code, regardless the type of credit awarded. The district may award core requirement credit **or** CTE elective credit **but not both** in the same semester.
  - vi.
- b. To facilitate understanding, excerpts of [IDAPA 08.0203.105](#) follow with comments (in italics) as appropriate. [**Legend:** **subject area**, **language allowing for the use of CTE assignments**]
  - i. 105. **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.**  
A student must meet all of the requirements identified in this section before the student will be eligible to graduate from an Idaho high school. The local school district or LEA may establish graduation requirements beyond the state minimum. (3-15-22)
    01. **Credit Requirements.** The State minimum graduation requirement for all Idaho public high schools is forty-six (46) credits and must include twenty-nine (29) credits in core subjects as identified in Paragraphs 105.01.c. through 105.01.h. (3-15-22)
      - a. Credits. One (1) credit shall equal sixty (60) hours of total instruction.... (3-15-22)

b. **Mastery.** Students must demonstrate mastery of Idaho Content Standards in a format provided by the LEA. Notwithstanding the credit definition of Subsection 105.01.a., a student may also achieve credits by demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards as defined and approved by the LEA. (7-1-25)

c. **Credit Flexibility.** The State Department of Education will support LEAs in the development of crosswalks and templates to assist in awarding credit for learning opportunities in ways that meet course requirements for high school graduation. (7-1-25)

d. **Secondary Language Arts and Communication.** Nine (9) credits are required. Eight (8) credits of instruction in Language Arts. Each year of Language Arts shall consist of language study, composition, and literature and be aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for the appropriate grade level. **One (1) credit of instruction in communications consisting of oral communication and technological applications that includes a course in speech, a course in debate, or a sequence of instructional activities that meet the Idaho Speech Content Standards requirements.** (3-15-22)

*Editorial Note: A single course assignment that folds the Idaho Speech Content Standards into to it OR a sequence of instructional activities (a hybrid model - including class activities and participation in FFA or another career technical student organization) can meet this requirement. The assignment or hybrid model, if used for the graduation speech requirement, must result in only one (1) credit being awarded. The CTE assignment may **not** count for both a CTE and speech credit.*

e. **Mathematics.** Six (6) credits are required. Secondary mathematics includes Integrated Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in mathematical problem solving and quantitative reasoning **including mathematics taken through career technical education programs. Engineering courses and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades nine (9) through (12), may be counted as a mathematics credit.** Students who choose to take computer science or engineering courses may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit for the same course. (7-1-25)

i. ...

f. **Science.** Six (6) credits are required. Four (4) credits are required from at least two (2) of the four (4) content areas: physics, chemistry, earth and space, or life science. An additional two (2) credits in secondary sciences may include instruction in **applied sciences**, physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, life sciences, engineering, or computer science. Students who choose to take computer science or engineering courses may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit for the same course. (7-1-25)

*Editorial Note: "Applied science" provides the opportunity for some agricultural, engineering and technology education, family and consumer sciences, and health professions courses to meet science graduation requirements if the district folds into the course the appropriate Idaho Science Content Standards. The course, if used for the graduation science requirement, must result in only one (1) credit being awarded. The CTE assignment may not count for both a CTE and science credit.*

g. **Social Studies**. Five (5) credits are required, including government (two (2) credits), United States history (two (2) credits), and **economics and financial literacy (one (1) credit)**. Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but are not to be counted as a social studies requirement.

(4-6-23)

*Editorial Note: This item of rule provides the opportunity for some agricultural, business and marketing, and family and consumer sciences courses to meet the economics and financial literacy graduation requirement if the district folds into the course the appropriate Idaho Economics and Financial Literacy Content Standards. The course, if used for the graduation economics and financial literacy requirement, must result in only one (1) credit being awarded. The CTE assignment may not count for both a CTE and economics credit.*

*Refer to the CTE [Financial Literacy white paper](#) for additional information and guidance.*

h. ... (7-1-25)

i. **Health/Wellness**. One (1) credit is required. Course must be aligned to the Idaho Health Content Standards. Each student shall **receive a minimum of one (1) class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training** as outlined in the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR to include the **proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED)** as part of the Health/Wellness course.

(7-1-25)

*Editorial Note: Health professions course assignments may be used to meet the graduation health/wellness requirement if the district folds into the course the appropriate Idaho Health/Wellness Content Standards. The CTE assignment may not count for both a CTE and health/wellness credit. As one example, in the year-long Anatomy and Physiology for Health Professions course, students may receive one health/wellness graduation credit at the end of the second semester; that way, the Idaho Health Content Standards can be folded in throughout the length of the course. In this situation, at the conclusion of the second semester, the credit is awarded as the health/wellness graduation credit and not the CTE credit although it may still be titled as the CTE course.*

j. **Digital Literacy**. One (1) credit is required. The course must include instruction that aligns with Idaho Content Standards associated with leveraging technology, digital citizenship, and computational thinking which are imbedded in the Information and Communication Technology Content Standards, and with leveraging the impacts of computing, algorithms, and programming, which are embedded in the Computer Science Standards. This requirement will apply to any student graduating after January 1, 2028.

(7-1-25)

*More information forthcoming as to how this requirement can be met through CTE assignments.*

## **2. TEACHER IS PROPERLY CERTIFIED AND ENDORSED IN THE CORE CONTENT (NON-CTE) AREA.**

- a. The CTE instructor holds an appropriate core content endorsement on a Standard Instructional Certificate. Such endorsements may include Biological Science (7421), Communication (7144), Economics (7228), Health (7521), and Mathematics (7300).