

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
November 18, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.0995, Form of High School Diplomas and Certificates of Completion

---

**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Sections 1001.02, 1003.4282, 1003.435, 1003.438, 1003.53, Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Section 1003.438, F.S., was revised to only allow students currently in high school whose individual education plan, as of June 20, 2014, contains a statement of intent to receive a special diploma. Such student may be awarded a special diploma in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Education if the student meets the requirements specified in s. 1003.438, F.S. Any such student who meets all special requirements of the district school board in effect as of June 30, 2014, but who is unable to meet the appropriate special state minimum requirements, shall be awarded a special certificate of completion.

This amendment specifies the special diploma or special certificate of completion forms of high school diploma are applicable for students who entered grade nine prior to the 2014-2015 school year.

---

**Supporting Documentation Included:** Rule 6A-1.0995, Form of High School Diplomas and Certificates of Completion

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Mary Jane Tappen, Executive Vice Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools

**6A-1.0995 Form of High School Diplomas and Certificates of Completion.**

Pursuant to Sections ~~1003.428~~, 1003.4282, and 1003.438, F.S., the form of the Standard Diploma, the Special Diploma, State of Florida High School Performance-Based Diploma, the Certificate of Completion and the Special Certificate of Completion shall contain the wording and be in the form prescribed herein.

(1) through (5) No change.

(6) The special diploma or special certificate of completion forms of high school diploma are applicable for students who entered grade nine prior to the 2014-2015 school year.

(7)(6) Districts must determine student eligibility for designations of each of the following accomplishments and include on standard diplomas issued beginning in July 2013 as applicable:

(a) Completion of the scholar designation requirements in accordance with Section 1003.4285, F.S.

(b) Completion of the merit designation requirements in accordance with Section 1003.4285, F.S.

(8) (7) Designations may be in the form of a seal, sticker, stamp, or text.

(9) (8) Each district school board shall produce or have produced the Diplomas and Certificates of Completion in the quantity and as needed to be awarded to the students in the public schools of that district. Any person producing copies shall, pursuant to Section 15.03(3), F.S. and Rule 1-2.0021, F.A.C., secure approval from the Department of State to print the State Seal on such copies.

(10) (9) The Commissioner is authorized, upon written request from any district school board, to approve modification in the form or format of the diplomas or certificates prescribed herein; however, such modification shall not substantively alter the content or the wording of the diplomas or certificates.

Rulemaking Authority 1001.02, ~~1003.428~~, 1003.4282, 1003.435, 1003.438, 1003.53 FS. Law Implemented 1001.02, ~~1003.428~~, 1003.4282, 1003.4285, 1003.435, 1003.438, 1003.53 FS. History—New 11-14-78, Amended 6-9-81, Formerly 6A-1.995, Amended 4-3-90, 1-5-09, 7-19-10, 3-25-14,