

## GRADUATION

The graduation or commencement ceremony is a time to celebrate the honors and achievements of the graduating class. The Bethlehem Central School District (the District) will establish the date for graduation ceremonies.

Participation in the graduation ceremony and related activities will be predicated on satisfactory completion of all graduation requirements, or as otherwise described in this policy. Exceptions may be made under extraordinary circumstances with the permission of the superintendent. A student who has earned either a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOS) or Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC) by the time his/her ninth-grade cohort reaches graduation may, but is not required to, participate in that graduation ceremony.

A student with a disability who participates in graduation ceremonies by earning only a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOS) or a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC) is entitled to continue his/her educational program until the end of school year in which the student turns twenty-one years old, or until he/she earns a Regents or local high school diploma.

The superintendent shall develop regulations to implement this policy, to be adopted by the Board. The District shall provide annual written notice to all students and their parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of the requirements of this policy and associated regulations.

Cross-Ref:     4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities Under the IDEA and New York's  
                                Education Law Article 89  
                                4321.9, Declassification of Students with Disabilities  
                                4773, Diploma and Credential Options for Students with Disabilities

Ref:             Education Law §3204(4-b)  
                                8 NYCRR §§100.5; 100.6

*Adopted:*        *April 10, 2018*

*Revised date:*   *March 20, 2019*