

The purpose of the IEP Certificate of Completion Policy is to define program requirements for graduation with an IEP Certificate of Completion from Girls Global Academy Public Charter School. Girls Global Academy students will either graduate with a Standard High School Diploma or the IEP Certificate of Completion. Requirements for the Standard High School Diploma can be found in the Girls Global Academy Student and Family Handbook. Requirements for the IEP Certificate of Completion are outlined in this policy.

## Eligibility for the IEP Certificate of Completion

Students with disabilities and an Individualized Education Program (IEP) may be eligible for the IEP Certificate of Completion. The multidisciplinary team (MDT) will rely on quantitative factors and information recorded in the student's IEP as guidance in deciding whether to pursue a Standard High School Diploma or an IEP Certificate of Completion. The student's preferences, abilities, and plans for post-secondary options will be the most influential factors.

To be deemed eligible for alternate assessment and IEP Certificate of Completion participation, students must meet all the following minimum requirements: 1. The student has a significant cognitive disability; 2. The student is learning content linked to Common Core State Standards (CCSS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and WIDA English Language Development standards (ELD); and 3. The student requires extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial support in the grade appropriate curriculum. Meeting these requirements does not guarantee automatic alternate assessment participation.

The MDT must always pursue, or assess the feasibility of, the Standard High School Diploma before considering the IEP Certificate of Completion.

Quantitative factors considered may include but not be limited to:

- Standardized assessments
- Informal academic assessments created by the school
- Benchmark assessments
- Behavioral assessments
- Any other information yielding data that informs instruction

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## Academic Requirements for IEP Certificate of Completion

A IEP Certificate of Completion is earned by students with disabilities who have mastered their IEP goals and completed high school coursework, but have not completed the requirements for a Standard High School Diploma. Completed credits from Girls Global Academy PCS Graduation requirements can count towards equivalent courses for the IEP Certificate of Completion Course Requirements. To earn an IEP Certificate of Completion, students must earn 24.5 credits as follows:

<b>IEP Certificate of Completion Course Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Reading and Writing Concepts	4.0
Concepts of Mathematics	4.0
Concepts of Science	4.0
Concepts of Social Studies	4.0
Learning Labs and Seminars	2.0
Electives	2.5
Health and Physical Education	1.0
Transition Coursework	3.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24.5</b>

### Additional Requirements:

- Students are required to complete 100 hours of service learning, as described in the Girls Global Academy Public Charter School Student and Family Handbook.

Note: The graduating class of 2025 will be required to complete only 75 service learning hours.

- Students are required to have mastered their IEP goals, as determined by the MDT team.

### Additional Information:

Depending on whether the student and their IEP team select the Standard High School Diploma or the IEP Certificate of Completion, a student may require more than 4 years in high school. “A child with a disability found by the Local Education Agency (LEA) to be eligible for special education and related services shall remain eligible through the end of the semester he or she turns twenty-two,” [District of Columbia Municipal Regulations 5-E D.C.M.R. § 3002.1(b)]. Girls Global Academy will work closely



with students and families to ensure ongoing tracking of the student's progress towards graduation and communication of timeline for the child's programming and certificate of completion.

