

GUIDANCE GOVERNING THE USE OF LOCALLY-AWARDED VERIFIED CREDITS

STANDARD: 8 VAC 20-131-110. Standard and Verified Units of Credit (ADOPTED: October 26, 2006, REVISED May 9, 2018)

Locally-Awarded Verified Credit Guidance:

The awarding of verified credit using this process applies only for the Standard Diploma retroactive to the ninth grade class of 2003-2004. This process does not apply to awarding verified credit for an Advanced Studies Diploma.

For students entering the ninth grade prior to the 2018-2019 academic year, no ~~Ne~~ more than ~~four~~ **three** verified credits may be awarded through this process and ~~these~~ **locally-awarded verified credits** may not be used to award verified credits for the Advanced Studies Diploma.

For students entering the ninth grade in the 2018-2019 academic year or thereafter, no more than one verified credit may be awarded through this process.

Students eligible for credit accommodations shall not be subject to the limitations on the number of verified credits that may be awarded through this process.

The award of verified credits under this guidance will not be used to recalculate a school's accreditation rating.

To be eligible to earn locally awarded verified credits in English, mathematics, science, or history/social science under this guidance, a student must:

- Pass the high school course,
- Score within a 375-399 scale score range on any administration of the Standards of Learning test after taking the test at least twice, and
- Demonstrate achievement in the academic content through an appeal process administered at the local level.

The Board of Education requires that local school boards adopt policies to govern procedures used to award local verified credit. The appeal process will include:

- The appointment by the local school board of a local review panel comprised of at least three educators. Different panels may be appointed for individual schools or groups of schools, at the local school board's discretion.
- The local review panel will review information that provides evidence of the student's achievement of adequate knowledge of the Standards of Learning content. The panel shall have discretion in determining the information to be considered and may include, but not be limited to, results of classroom assessments, divisionwide exams, course

grades, and additional academic assignments (e.g., papers, projects, essay or written questions) as deemed appropriate.

- Based on the evidence reviewed, the local review panel may award the verified credit, deny the verified credit, suggest participation in a remedial program and retesting, or make additional academic assignments as deemed appropriate prior to determining whether to award the verified credit.