

ACCELERATED SECONDARY PROGRAM

Erskine Academy structures and manages its programs of study through a four-year sequence of courses that enables students to meet all statutory and regulatory diploma requirements. Required courses are complemented by a range of non-required, elective courses provided for the purpose of enhancing students' competitiveness and marketability for post-secondary opportunities. Therefore, the four-year high school program is advocated for and provided to all students, as is the promotion of combining required and elective study with extra-curricular activities in preparation for future academic and vocational experiences.

The Board recognizes that exceptionally well-prepared, academically superior, socially competent students may have aspirations and a readiness to complete their secondary studies in fewer than the prescribed four years. It is the intent of the Board to maintain its efficient and orderly four-year school program while allowing exceptional students to accelerate their secondary school program thereby enabling them to sooner begin post-secondary studies. The Board has established this policy which is to be followed by the school administration in determining, a) the appropriateness of permitting students to complete the required school program in fewer than four years and, b) how to present the high school diploma in recognition of the achievement.

I. Prior Notification

Students, with their parent(s), may propose an accelerated secondary program by submitting a letter of request and rationale to the headmaster for consideration, provided the following has occurred:

- A. The student is currently in and has not yet completed the tenth grade.
- B. The student has a 93.000 cumulative grade point average and no fewer than 14 academic credits by the completion of the tenth grade.
- C. The student has consulted with his/her guidance counselor and includes in the proposal a plan to complete all required courses by the end of the eleventh grade. Any enrichment, summer, or correspondence courses proposed in the plan must receive the prior approval of the administration, who will assess the value of the course for academic credit from the school. **Grades for all courses approved for Erskine Academy credit will be calculated into the cumulative grade point average.**

II. Awarding the Diploma

Students who have successfully petitioned the school administration for an accelerated school program may be awarded the high school diploma at the close of the eleventh grade provided that:

- A. The approved plan has been fulfilled.
- B. The student has maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least 93.000.
- C. The student has made their accelerated status known to his/her prospective colleges in the college application and has been accepted to an institution of higher education.
- D. The student has demonstrated the intent to matriculate into the institution of higher education in the school year to immediately follow (what would typically be the twelfth grade).