

A bill for an act
relating to education; allowing students to graduate early from high school with a
standard diploma; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 120B.07.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 120B.07, is amended to read:

120B.07 EARLY GRADUATION.

(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any secondary school student who
has satisfactorily completed all required courses or standards high school graduation
requirements under this chapter may, with the approval of the student, the student's parent
or guardian, and local school officials, graduate before the completion of completing
the school year and receive a standard high school diploma. General education revenue
attributable to the a student who graduates before completing the school year under this
section must be paid as though the student was in attendance for the entire year. The
payment under this paragraph is available only one time for the remaining portion of
the school year that the graduating student does not complete under this section. This
payment is not available under paragraph (d).

(b) A public secondary school student who satisfactorily completes in fewer than
four school years all high school graduation requirements under this chapter is eligible to
receive a standard high school diploma from the secondary school the student last attended.

(c) A public secondary school student who satisfactorily completes the freshman
year in an accredited postsecondary higher education institution or who has been admitted
and enrolls in an accredited postsecondary higher education institution without being
required to complete any remedial instruction is eligible to receive a standard high school

diploma from the secondary school the student last attended, whether or not the student has satisfactorily completed all high school graduation requirements under this chapter.

(d) A public secondary school student who satisfactorily completes the requirements for grades 9 through 11 under this chapter and participates in an accredited high school study abroad program in grade 12 is eligible to receive a standard high school diploma from the Minnesota public secondary school the student last attended.

(e) Consistent with the school board policy under paragraph (f), a public secondary school student who enlists in the military and has an enlistment contract that contains an educational component may be eligible to receive a standard high school diploma from the secondary school the student last attended, whether or not the student has satisfactorily completed all high school graduation requirements under this chapter.

(f) A school board must formally adopt, publish in an electronic format or other format, and implement an early high school graduation policy that is consistent with this section. The school board annually must publicly report the number of standard high school diplomas it issues under this section. A student and the student's parent may appeal a school board decision under paragraph (e) to the commissioner in the form and manner the commissioner determines and the commissioner's decision regarding the appeal shall be final.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for the 2011-2012 school year and later.