



GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CENTRAL OFFICE

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Stephen Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning

"The Greenfield Public School District is a place where every child is supported on their path to success."

Greenfield Public School Competency Determination

Introduction

This proposal outlines the process for certifying competency determinations (CD) for students in the Greenfield Public Schools (GPS), beginning with the graduating class of 2025, in alignment with Massachusetts General Law and DESE requirements. The CD ensures students demonstrate mastery of essential academic skills and knowledge as a condition for high school graduation.

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws and the educational standards established by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), all students graduating from the Greenfield Public Schools must fulfill both the local graduation requirements and the competency determination requirements set forth by the Greenfield School Committee. These requirements are designed to ensure that students meet rigorous academic standards and are prepared for post-secondary education, career opportunities, and civic life.

Competency Determination

Under the revised state law:

1. Students must demonstrate mastery of academic standards and curriculum frameworks in:
 - English Language Arts (ELA)
 - Mathematics
 - Science (at least one of Biology, Introductory Physics, Chemistry, or Technology/Engineering)
2. Mastery can be demonstrated through satisfactorily completing district-certified coursework aligned with state academic standards and curriculum frameworks.

Core Academic Competencies:

1. To meet the math competency determination, students must achieve a grade of D- or better in the following foundational courses:
 - a. Algebra I
 - b. Geometry



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2. To meet the english competency determination, students must achieve a grade of D- or better in two of the following foundational courses:
 - a. ELA English 9
 - b. ELA English 10
 - c. ELA English 11
 - d. ELA English 12

3. 3. Science Requirement:
 - a. To demonstrate competency in the sciences, students must achieve a grade of D- or better in at least one of the following core science courses:
 - b. Biology
 - c. Chemistry
 - d. Physics

Any transfer students will have their transcript reviewed and a plan for meeting the Greenfield Public Schools' CD will be identified per individual student.

These competency requirements are grounded in Massachusetts' legal mandate that all public school students achieve proficiency in key academic subjects as a condition of receiving a high school diploma. The Greenfield School Committee has established these standards to align with statewide educational goals while ensuring that all graduates possess the critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills necessary for success beyond high school.

Students and their families are encouraged to consult with school counselors and review the *Greenfield High School Program of Studies* for detailed guidance on course selection and academic planning to ensure compliance with these requirements.

Conclusion

This proposed CD process ensures compliance with Massachusetts General Law while supporting students' academic and postsecondary success. By integrating certification mechanisms along with support for all learners, including those with IEPs, Greenfield Public Schools reaffirms its commitment to equitable and high-quality education for every student.

This document will be publicly available in multiple languages through the Greenfield Public Schools [website](#). Hard copies can be requested through school or district offices.