

Diploma Warranty

Prince William County Public Schools will provide a two-year warranty for diploma recipients. The diploma warranty guarantees minimum competencies in reading, writing, and mathematics. Students receiving a diploma from Prince William County Public Schools:

- Understand, interpret, and analyze written material;
- Carry out oral and written directions or obtain clarification when necessary;
- Express ideas both orally and in writing, using appropriate vocabulary and proper grammar;

- Locate and obtain needed information from common reference materials, computerized data-bases, maps and diagrams, and resource people;
- Apply basic computation skills; and
- Use problem-solving strategies in the work environment.

Prince William County Public Schools' graduates who are identified by employers as lacking one or more of these minimum competencies may be retrained through Prince William County Public Schools' Night School Program at no expense to the graduate.

Diploma Seal

Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia contain provisions for awards for exemplary performance for students who meet the requirements for graduation as follows:

- Students who complete the requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of "B" or better and successfully complete college-level coursework that will earn the student at least nine transferable college credits in Advanced Placement (AP), IB (IB), Cambridge (AICE), or dual enrollment courses will receive the **Governor's Seal on the Diploma**.
- Students who complete the requirements for a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average of "A" will receive a **Board of Education Seal** on the Diploma.
- **The Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Seal** will be awarded to students who earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma, complete a prescribed sequence of career and technical education courses and either:
 - Maintain a "B" or better average in those courses; or
 - Pass one of the Virginia Department of Education approved industry certifications, occupational competence assessments, or professional licenses. See your school counselor for a list of approved industry certifications.
- **The Board of Education Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology** is awarded to students who earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma (four standard units of credit including Algebra II; two verified units of credit) with a "B" average or better and either (i) pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, trade, or professional association; or (ii) acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia; or (iii) pass an examination approved by the Board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area. The Board of Education shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.

- **The Board of Education's Seal for Excellence in Civics Education** will be awarded to students who earn a Modified Standard Diploma, Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and satisfy all of the following criteria: (i) complete U.S. and Virginia History and U.S. and Virginia Government with a grade of "B" or higher; (ii) complete 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities that have a civics focus; and (iii) have good attendance and no disciplinary infractions. Any student who enlists in the United States military prior to graduation will be deemed to have completed the community service requirement for this seal.
- **The Board of Education's Seal of Biliteracy** will be awarded to students who earn either a Board of Education-approved diploma and (i) pass all required End-of-Course Assessments in English reading and writing at the proficient or higher level; and (ii) be proficient at the intermediate-mid level or higher in one or more languages other than English, as demonstrated through an assessment from a list to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. For purposes of this seal, "foreign language" means a language other than English, and includes American Sign Language.
- **The Board of Education's Seal for Excellence in Science and the Environment** is awarded to students who enter the ninth grade for the first time in the 2018-19 year and thereafter, and meet each of the following criteria:
 - Earn either a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma
 - Complete at least three different first-level board-approved laboratory science courses and at least one rigorous advanced-level or postsecondary-level laboratory science course, each with a grade of "B" or higher
 - Complete laboratory or field-science research and present that research in a formal, juried setting
 - Complete at least 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities that involve the application of science such as environmental monitoring, protection, management, or restoration.