



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
UNDERSECRETARY FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

April 16, 2018

Dear Chief of State,

The Puerto Rico Department of Education thanks you in advance for all the support given to our displaced students. We deeply appreciate all you are doing for our children.

After Hurricanes Irma and Maria, a significant number of public school primary and secondary students from Puerto Rico temporarily relocated to the United States. Most of these students did not have available to them the appropriate student records to complete a typical enrollment process, putting a substantial load on school district's admissions and student allocation processes.

The Puerto Rico Department of Education developed the Student Records Exchange (SRX) platform to facilitate the exchange of the public school student records with other US districts to expedite their enrollment process at their schools. The information available through the SRX allows district and school staff to make time-sensitive placement decisions more effectively. School staff can quickly access students' previous enrollment records, course history to determine the appropriate placement within the new school.

At the end of the school year, to assist graduating 12<sup>th</sup> graders or students that decide to return to Puerto Rico, the SRX will allow registered US Districts and schools to exchange student records and documents back to the Puerto Rico Department of Education with the additional academic information to continue their academic studies or request their Puerto Rico High School diploma and graduate.

Below please find additional information about the requirements to earn a Puerto Rico High School Diploma, registration information to the Student Records Exchange to request transcripts and how to request a diploma for current 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Thanks again for everything you are doing for our children, #todoporlosnifios. Should you need additional information, you can contact our office or the SRX team via email [info@de.pr.gov](mailto:info@de.pr.gov).

P.O. Box 190759, San Juan

The Department of Education does not discriminate under any circumstance on the grounds of age, race, color, gender, birth, religion, veteran status, political ideals, sexual orientation, gender identity, social condition or background, physical or mental incapacity; or for being victim of aggression, harassment, or domestic violence.

## Requirements for Earning a Puerto Rico High School Diploma for a Student Who is Currently a Senior or a Junior in High School

Currently we are in a transition period, with new graduation credit requirements coming into effect during the next 2018-2019 school year to earn the Puerto Rico High School Diploma.

For a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student to earn a high school diploma from Puerto Rico this academic year 2017-18 , the student must complete a minimum of 18 credits on their 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level courses. The 20 hours of occupational experiences (which may include mentoring, internship or work experience, or a combination thereof) and 40 hours of community service are waived this year.

Below is a table to illustrate the 18 credits needed for the current 2017-2018, 12<sup>th</sup> grade students on their 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade level courses:

• Spanish	3 credits
• English	3 credits
• Mathematics	3 credits
• Science	3 credits
• Social Studies	3 credits
• Physical Education	1 credit
• Art	0.5 credit
• Health	0.5 credit
• Responsible Parenting (may also satisfy the Health Education or elective course)	0.5 credit
• Vocational, Technology, Family Science, Agriculture, or other elective	0.5 credit
Total	18 credits

\* There are no specific courses required for the credits in Mathematics, English, Science, or Social Studies.

\* There are no requirements for a student to earn a minimum grade point average or satisfy standardized assessment requirements.

Starting next school-year (2018-19), for current 11<sup>th</sup> grade and all other students to earn a high school diploma from Puerto Rico, the student must complete a minimum of 24 credits on their 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade level courses, 20 hours of occupational experiences (which may include mentoring, internship or work experience, or a combination thereof) and 40 hours of community service.

Below is a table to illustrate the 24 credits needed for the current 2017-2018 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and all other students on their 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level courses:

• Spanish	4 credits
• English	4 credits
• Mathematics	4 credits
• Science	4 credits
• Social Studies	4 credits
• Physical Education	1 credit
• Art	1 credit
• Health	1 credit
• Responsible Parenting (may also satisfy the Health Education or elective course)	0.5 credit
• Vocational, Technology, Family Science, Agriculture, or other elective	0.5 credit
Total	24 credits

\* There are no specific courses required for the credits in Mathematics, English, Science, or Social Studies.

\* There are no requirements for a student to earn a minimum grade point average or satisfy standardized assessment requirements.

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students requesting to graduate with a Puerto Rico Department of Education High School Diploma**

These are the steps created for the US School/District to request the 18 credits worthy Puerto Rico High School Diploma for their 12 grade student:

1. US School/District request access to the Puerto Rico Student Records Exchange Portal via email at [info@de.pr.gov](mailto:info@de.pr.gov).
2. US School/District enters a new request for Puerto Rico High School Transcript through the PRDE Student Record Exchange Portal <http://srx.dde.pr>.
3. US School/District validates the 18 credits academic progress via the PRDE High School Transcript.
4. US School/District enter new request for the Puerto Rico High School Diploma along with submission and proof through the receiving school transcript, completion of coursework for the 2017-2018 school-year.
5. PRDE validates completed requirements and sends diploma electronically to requesting US School/District.

Regards,

Maria C. Christian  
Chief Academic Officer