

## DC Public Schools June Graduation Update: 2018 Cohort

---

### DCPS' Commitment to Support Students

Over the past several months, DC Public Schools (DCPS) has taken steps to ensure that all students understand the path to graduation and receive the supports they need to be successful through the following:

- Individual meetings with students and their families to ensure that students understand the steps needed to graduate;
- Resource fairs at every comprehensive high school to inform students of opportunities with community partners and city agencies; and
- Enhanced communication to students and their families about students' graduation plans and progress toward graduation.

### Stakeholder Engagement

#### Feedback

This spring, we engaged internal and external stakeholder groups to gather feedback on our Graduation Excellence policies. Through more than 100 survey responses from school staff members and more than 20 focus groups, three key themes emerged:

- **Set clear expectations** so that everyone (students, parents, teachers, principals) has clarity.
- **Engage community members** in a more methodical way so that messages are given to students in multiple formats and from different figures.
- **Post code, regulations, and policies** online in a single, easy-to-access format and place.

#### What's Next

DCPS families and community members are key partners in supporting the success of our students, and DCPS is committed to providing opportunities for stakeholder feedback as we update our graduation-related policies. Later this month, DCPS will open an online public comment period about our draft graduation policies. This public comment period will accept feedback on a rolling basis for 30 days. We encourage you to visit the DCPS website at [dcps.dc.gov](http://dcps.dc.gov) for more information and to submit your feedback.

## DCPS Graduate Profile

DCPS is committed to ensuring that all students feel loved, challenged, and prepared to positively influence society and thrive in life. To fulfill this commitment, DCPS provides students with supports to help them be successful and holds all graduates accountable to clear standards of excellence. We strive to empower our students to be engaged, prepared, courageous, compassionate, and culturally aware.

**DCPS GRADUATE PROFILE**  
DCPS graduates are:

- ENGAGED**  
Our graduates are prepared to positively influence society and to be engaged local and global citizens.
- PREPARED**  
Our graduates are academically prepared to tackle tomorrow's problems and to be successful in life.
- COURAGEOUS**  
Our graduates tackle challenges and learn from their successes and failures.
- COMPASSIONATE**  
Our graduates practice empathy and understand the importance of growth through helping others.
- CULTURALLY AWARE**  
Our graduates proactively seek the perspective of others including those of different backgrounds & ethnicities.

**THIS IS HOW WE INFLUENCE THE WORLD**  
DCPS is committed to ensuring our students are prepared to succeed in college and career. We define College and Career Readiness as being able to pursue postsecondary programs - without requiring remediation - and secure a job in a high-wage, high-demand career. The following opportunities are available to all of our high school students to ensure they feel challenged, loved, and prepared to succeed in college and career:

- ENGAGED:**
  - COMMUNITY SERVICE
  - CAREER READY INTERNSHIPS
  - EXPLORATORY FIELD TRIPS
- PREPARED:**
  - RIGOROUS, COMMON CORE-ALIGNED CURRICULUM
  - DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES AT LOCAL COLLEGES
  - CAREER ACADEMIES
  - ADVANCED PLACEMENT/IB
- BOULDER:**
  - CLUBS/CO-CURRICULARS
  - TENACITY SKILLS TRAINING
- COMPASSIONATE:**
  - SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING
  - RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
- CULTURALLY AWARE:**
  - WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAMMING
  - STUDY ABROAD & DOMESTIC TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES
  - CULTURAL RESPONSIVE CURRICULUM

---

### Refresher: Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR)

The Adjust Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) is calculated by following a cohort of rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to determine the percentage that receive a regular diploma within 4 years. The ACGR also includes any students in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade cohort who graduate in 3 years.

$$\frac{\text{Grads within 4 years}}{(\text{Grads within 4 years} + \text{non-grads}) - (\text{Transfer students that produce valid documentation})}$$

Non-graduates are:

- Students who withdraw without subsequent enrollment (Students who transfer and produce valid documentation of enrollment in another diploma-granting school will be removed from the cohort).
- Students who are still enrolled and did not graduate in 4 years.
- Students who receive all other types of diplomas/certificates other than a traditional diploma (GED, SPED certificates, etc.).

---

## 2018 Cohort Status as of Term 4

DCPS is providing an update on the percent of the DCPS 2018 cohort who will graduate this month and who are on-track for graduation at a later date. This information serves as an update to the [information shared on April 26, 2018](#). This update ensures transparency around the high school work so that schools, the community, parents, and students have accurate information on students' path to graduation.

In Term 4, **59 percent of the 2018 cohort (2,096 students) graduated by June 2018**. This number includes third-year graduates who graduated in 2016-2017 who are members of the 2018 cohort. This number reflects a 13 percentage point increase from the April update (46 percent), which is due to two reasons:

1. A change in academic status for 455 students who passed courses and/or completed credit recovery:
  - 415 students moved from Moderately Off Track in Term 3 to Graduated in Term 4
  - 40 students moved from Significantly Off Track in Term 3 to Graduated in Term 4
  
2. Since the [Term 3 update](#), the total number of students in the 2018 cohort decreased from 3,623 to 3,550 seniors due to the following:
  - 76 new preliminary cohort removals that have been submitted to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). These students have produced documentation of a transfer to another diploma granting school or have enrolled in another Local Education Agency (LEA) in DC.
  - <10 students changed cohorts within DCPS (transcripts updated to reflect starting 9th grade outside the district)
  - <10 cohort additions (new students)

DCPS estimates that more students will graduate by August 2018 by completing summer school courses with passing marks.

**On Track to Graduation by School: Class of 2018 Cohort  
4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) Estimates as of June 8, 2018**

School	Cohort*	Graduated**	Non-Graduates			
			Potential Summer Graduate	5th Year Student	Special Education Certificate Track	Transfer/Withdrawn Remaining in Cohort***
Anacostia HS	172	42%	3%	22%	2%	31%
Ballou HS	294	45%	7%	25%	3%	20%
Ballou STAY HS	96	8%	2%	47%	0%	43%
Benjamin Banneker HS	104	99%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Cardozo EC	212	52%	3%	7%	3%	35%
Columbia Heights EC	264	79%	2%	5%	1%	14%
Coolidge HS	103	44%	7%	16%	3%	31%
Dunbar HS	190	72%	7%	9%	1%	11%
Eastern HS	209	74%	6%	9%	4%	7%
Ellington School of the Arts HS	129	91%	1%	0%	0%	9%
Luke Moore Alternative HS	163	15%	2%	55%	0%	28%
McKinley Technology HS	145	94%	0%	1%	0%	5%
Non-Public	103	14%	0%	70%	6%	11%
Phelps ACE HS	69	90%	6%	0%	0%	4%
Roosevelt HS	208	49%	9%	10%	5%	28%
Roosevelt STAY HS	149	15%	1%	66%	0%	19%
School Without Walls HS	170	91%	0%	1%	0%	9%
Washington Metropolitan HS	81	27%	0%	37%	0%	36%
Wilson HS	511	72%	4%	7%	0%	17%
H.D. Woodson HS	178	60%	9%	6%	1%	24%
<b>DCPS</b>	<b>3,550</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>19%</b>

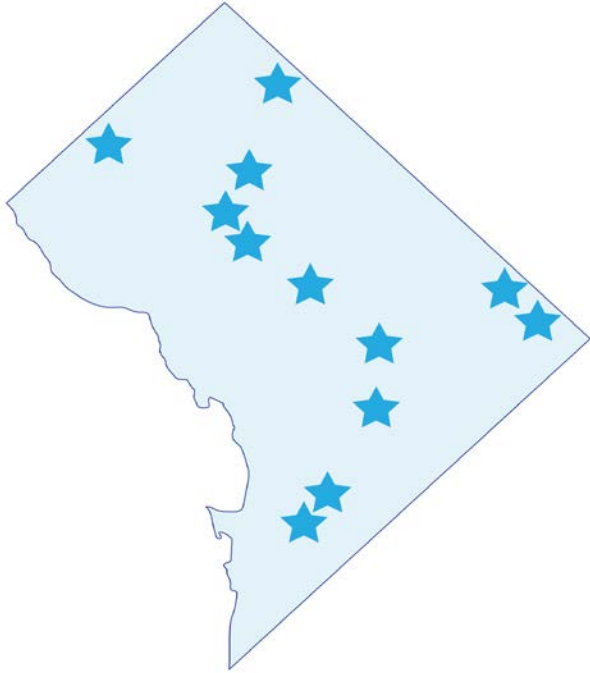
\*Cohort includes students enrolled at the Inspiring Youth Program and Youth Services Center. These students are grouped at their most recent diploma granting school of enrollment in DCPS (per the state's ACGR policy).

\*\*Graduates include students who graduated in their third year of high school in 2016-2017 but are in the 2018 cohort according to the ACGR policy.

\*\*\*Cohort excludes 426 preliminary cohort removals of students transferred out of DCPS that have been submitted to OSSE. The review of cohort removals is ongoing and will be complete by fall 2018. DCPS expects more students to be removed from the cohort, which could increase the graduation rate further. (Cohort removals are based on valid documentation of a transfer to another diploma-granting school).

---

## Summer School



DCPS will provide expanded summer school at all comprehensive high schools and Columbia Heights Education Campus, offering more than 3,100 seats. Summer school will offer original and credit recovery courses. Registration for all summer school programs is underway, and DCPS will verify that students are enrolled in the right courses for graduation.

### Additional Notes on Graduation Data:

- The 3,550 seniors at DC Public Schools includes students enrolled at the Inspiring Youth Program and Youth Services Center.
- “Graduated” measures students who have fulfilled graduation requirements by the end of the school year. Each student’s status is calculated by checking completed credits and grades for courses in progress. Grades for full-year, semester, trimester, or term courses in progress, are a cumulative average of terms 1, 2, 3, 4 and mid-term and final exams (if applicable). Mid-term and final exams are not required in every course but are weighted at 10% of the student’s grade if applicable. Term grades are evenly divided among the remainder, accounting for either 90% or 80% of the overall grade, depending on whether the course requires final and/or mid-term exams.

- 
- The ACGR is required by the US Department of Education and measures the percentage of students who started 9th grade in a given school year and graduated within four years. This calculation first began in School Year 2010-2011.
    - The 2018 cohort started 9<sup>th</sup> grade in School Year 2014-2015.
  - The OSSE will remove transfer or withdrawn students from the cohort if their last school of enrollment in DCPS submits documentation demonstrating that the student transferred to another diploma granting school outside of DCPS. DCPS has submitted 426 preliminary cohort removals to OSSE and expects to submit more by the end of the summer. This process will be complete by fall 2018 once all documentation is submitted and reviewed by OSSE.

#### **Definitions:**

- Cohort: All students who enrolled in 9<sup>th</sup> grade at the beginning of School Year 2014-2015 at a DCPS school or who transferred into DCPS at any time since School Year 2014-2015. Cohort excludes preliminary cohort removals of students transferred out of DCPS that have been submitted to OSSE.
- Potential Summer Graduate: Students are identified as Potential Summer Graduate if they are on-track to graduate in August after completing summer school.
- Potential 5<sup>th</sup> Year: Students are identified as Potential 5<sup>th</sup> Year if they are not expected to graduate in June or August 2018, but have enough credits to potentially graduate in either January or June 2019. These students are eligible to attend summer school but will not be able to earn enough credit to graduate by August.
- Certificate Track: Students with disabilities who will earn a certificate of Individualized Education Program completion instead of a standard high school diploma.
- Transfer/Withdrawn Remaining in Cohort: Student who have exited DC Public Schools, but counts toward the graduation rate until valid documentation proves a transfer to another degree granting Local Education Agency or the state cohort.

#### **Graduations and Celebrations**

DCPS is celebrating the Class of 2018 at [graduation ceremonies](#) this month and online in our #DCPSGoesToCollege campaign. Please visit the [DCPS website](#) and follow DCPS on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) to learn more about the accomplishments and aspirations of the Class of 2018.