High School Early Exit
Guidelines

*Only at the end of the first term of the senior year, but no earlier than the student’s 17th birthday, may a student elect to exit high school early if the following criteria are met:

1. The High School Early Exit application form must be completed and on file at the school. The student must complete Section I of the form by the end of the junior year and return it to their counselor.

2. The student must meet all graduation requirements, including passing all required parts of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam.

3. The student must have completed all coursework through one or a combination of the following three methods:
   a. Dual enrollment with Faulkner State Community College, or any other institution with whom the Board of Education has a dual enrollment agreement
   b. The FOCI summer school, and
   c. Courses on the high school campus during the regular school day.

4. The student must provide to the counselor one of the following documents before exiting high school:
   a. Letter of acceptance to a postsecondary institution,
   b. Letter of acceptance to the military, or
   c. Letter from employer verifying employment in the workplace.

The following guidelines should be considered as students and parents consider the High School Early Exit opportunity.

1. Following the completion of Section III of the High School Early Exit application form, the student will be considered an alumnus, and therefore, will not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activities. However, students may participate in the graduation ceremonies and prom.

2. Students who exit early will not be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian, or the College Preparatory with Distinction or IB Diplomas. In addition, no high school master schedules will be adjusted to accommodate a student who wishes to exit early. Therefore, a “standard” diploma may be the only option for early exit students.

*Every child between the ages of seven (7) and seventeen (17) years shall be required to enroll in school and to attend for the entire length of each scholastic year. Legal Reference: Code of Alabama (1975) §16-28-7 of the code.
High School Early Exit
Procedures

Students who wish to exit early from high school must follow the steps indicated below:

1. The student exiting high school early must complete Section I of the High School Early Exit Application and give it to his or her counselor by the end of the junior year.

2. The counselor will complete Section II of the application form.

3. A mandatory conference will be conducted. A parent/guardian and the student must attend the conference. The conference will occur by the end of June in the summer before the senior year of high school. Counselors will complete Section II of the High School Early Exit Application during the conference.

4. If the request for early exit is denied, the decision may be appealed to the Superintendent.

5. Upon exiting, the student will receive an unofficial transcript, a copy of the completed application form, and a diploma.

6. Early exit graduates will be coded WG1, which designates a mid-year graduate. This code is not used for calculating drop-outs.