

NO ARTS EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION

At this point, North Carolina has no arts education requirements for high school graduation. In fact, North Carolina is only one of the eleven (count 'em, 11!) states that have no high school arts requirements at all. In addition, no public university in North Carolina requires arts courses for admission.

This means the arts can get lost in the shuffle, unless dedicated educators and artists keep finding ways to infuse the arts into the curriculum.

A few school systems across the state require an arts credit for high school graduation. Encourage your system to follow their example

Not all of the news is bad. North Carolina does have Standards for each of the arts disciplines: music, dance, theatre, and visual arts. They are implemented at the discretion of individual school districts. Plus, there is teacher licensure available at many North Carolina colleges and universities; and it is required for each of the art forms.

For complete, up to date information on the status of arts education in North Carolina, go to the Arts Education Partnership web site and see Publications & Resources/State Arts Education Policy Database. This database provides a state-by-state description of legislation regulations and policy statements on arts requirements. www.aep-arts.org/policysearch/searchengine/