Graduation Coding Guidance

Districts must accurately code students on an IEP who are awarded a diploma based on how the state’s graduation requirements were met. According to ARSD 24:05:27:12. Graduation requirements: It states “The IEP team may modify the specific units of credit described in § 24:43:11:02.”. If the diploma is modified and not fully aligned, the student is still eligible for special education until either the student meets the same requirements as all students or ages out. Districts must accurately identify in the special education exit code whether the student received a diploma that met the same requirements as all students or if requirements were modified. The state must submit accurate data to federal Office of Special Education Programs and under Every Student Succeeds Act on the number of students that met the regular diploma requirements.

Key information:

- Only one diploma in South Dakota
- Student can receive a diploma at any age, even at 21 years old.

Two questions for districts to answer about student:

1. Did the student take the same course requirements as all students?
2. Did the student learn the same course content standards but utilized accommodations?

**Resources:**

State Graduation Requirements: [http://doe.sd.gov/octe/gradrequirements.aspx](http://doe.sd.gov/octe/gradrequirements.aspx)
Administrative Rules of South Dakota IEP Graduation Requirements

Updated 8.22.2018
Course Modifications

The IEP team should consider including someone with knowledge of the requirements for graduation when developing a course of study for the student.

Two questions for districts to answer about student:
1. Did the student take the same course requirements as all students?
2. Did the student learn the same course content standards but utilized accommodations?

- If yes, then it meets graduation requirement as same aged peers.
  - Sped Exit Code in Campus: 2 - Graduated with regular high school diploma (refer previous page)
  - Example:
    - Student takes same course with only accommodations

- If yes, then student still meets the same expectation as peers.
  - The course has accommodations for the student.
  - Sped Exit Code in Campus: 2 - Graduated with regular high school diploma (refer previous page)
  - Example:
    - The course is over two years and still meets all same content requirements.
    - Course taught in resource room and still meets all same course/content standards

- Then the student will be a Sped Exit Code in Campus: 03 - Graduated (IEP team modified diploma) (refer to previous page)
  - Example:
    - Course is developed from core content connectors
    - Course will not be allowed for all students to receive a diploma.
    - Content standards are modified to meet needs of child.