Graduation Policy

In order to earn a high school diploma, students must earn the required credits and complete one of the options listed in this policy. The option a student completes will depend upon when the student entered the ninth grade..

Credit Requirements
Students must complete a minimum of 20 credits in the following subject areas:

- English Language Arts   4 units

- Health   ½ unit

- Mathematics   4 units
  Must include one unit of algebra II or the equivalent unless a student is participating in a career-technical pathway. However, the student must still earn four units of math. A family may also determine that the student is not prepared to meet the requirement for a higher-level math or the student is not planning a career that requires higher level math. The student and parent/guardian must discuss the options with the school in this situation.

- Physical Education   ½ unit
  The school may adopt a policy that would exempt students that participate in interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading for two full seasons or an approved Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program for two years. The student who is exempted must participate in another course with at least sixty contract hours.

- Science   3 units
  Must include one unit of physical sciences, one unit of life sciences and one unit of advanced study in one or more of the following: chemistry, physics or other physical science, advanced biology or other life science, astronomy, physical geology or other earth or space science. A student may be exempted from a higher-level science course if the student's parent/guardian indicates that the student is not prepared to meet the requirement or if the student does not intend on a career that requires higher level science. The student and parent/guardian must discuss the options with the school in this situation.

- Social Studies   3 units
  Must include ½ unit of American history and ½ unit of American government. Beginning with the class of 2021, ½ unit in world history and civilizations will also be required.

- Electives   5 units
  Must include one unit of foreign language, fine arts, business, career-technical education, family and consumer sciences, technology, agricultural education or

English language arts, mathematics, science or social studies courses not already required.

- o Other Requirements
  Students must receive instruction in economics and financial literacy during grades 9-12 and must complete at least two semesters of fine arts taken any time in grades 7-12. Fine arts is not a requirement for students following a career-technical pathway.

Dropout Recovery Programs

Students enrolled in dropout recovery programs, that have received a waiver by the state, may qualify for graduation by successfully completing a competency-based instructional program administered by the school in lieu of the credit requirements listed above and shall meet one of the three pathway requirements described above. However, the school has the option of not administering the end-of-course tests if students are not at the appropriate place in the school's competency-based curriculum.

Graduation Class Requirements

Classes of 2018-2019

In addition to obtaining the required minimum credits, students who entered grade nine between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2016 must meet one of the Three Pathways, or the Additional Graduation Option or the Permanent Requirements.

Class of 2020

In addition to obtaining the required minimum credits, students who entered grade nine between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 must meet one of the Three Pathway, or the Modified Additional Graduation Options, or the Permanent Requirements.

Classes of 2021 and 2022

In addition to obtaining the required minimum credits, students who entered grade nine between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2019 must meet one of the Three Pathways or the Permanent Requirements.

Classes of 2023 and beyond

In addition to obtaining the required minimum credits, students who entered grade nine between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 must meet one of the Permanent Requirements.

Graduation Pathways, Additional Graduation Options, Modified Additional Graduation Options, Permanent Requirements

Three Pathways

1. *Ohio State Tests*
    Students may graduate upon earning 18 points on end-of-course state tests. In order to meet this requirement, a student must earn a minimum of four points in math, four points in English and six points across science and social studies.

    Students participating in Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses in biology, American history, or American government may take and substitute test scores for end-of-course state exams to earn graduation points.

    Students may also substitute grades from College Credit Plus courses in science and social studies for end-of-course exams.

2. *Industry credential and workforce readiness*
    Students may graduate upon earning twelve points through a State Board of Education approved, industry recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field. In addition to the twelve points, a student must achieve a workforce readiness score on the WorkKeys assessment. The State of Ohio will pay one time for those who take the WorkKeys assessment.

3. *College and Career Readiness Tests*
    A student may graduate upon earning a remediation-free score in English language arts and mathematics on a nationally recognized college admission exam. The state of Ohio will pay one time for eleventh grade students graduating in classes of 2018 and beyond to take the ACT or SAT. (The test selection is at the School's discretion and may change from school year to school year.)

Additional Graduation Options
Option 1 – All Students

Students must complete courses that meet the curriculum requirements and take all seven end of course exams. A student must retake any math or English language arts test in which the student received a score of "1" or "2" at least once.

The student must also meet at least two of the below requirements:

- Attendance rate of 93% during the student's 12th grade year;
- Earn a GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale in all courses completed during the 12th grade year. The student must complete at least four full-year courses;
- Complete a capstone project during the 12th grade year;
- Complete a school-approved work or community services experience of 120 hours during the 12th grade year;
- Earn three or more College Credit Plus credits at any time during high school;

- Earn credit for an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course and earn an AP exam score of 3 or higher or IB exam score of 4 or higher at any time during high school;
- Earn a WorkKeys exam score of 3 on each of three test sections;
- Earn a state board approved industry-recognized credential or credentials that equal at least three points;
- Meet OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal requirements

Option 2 – Career-Technical Program Students

Students in a career-technical program must complete and pass courses that constitute the curriculum requirements, take all seven end of course exams, and finish a career-technical program that includes at least four courses in a single career pathway.

The student must also meet at least one of the options below:

- Earn a total score of proficient or better based on all career-technical exams or test modules;
- Earn an industry recognized credential or credentials that equal 12 points
- Complete a workplace experience totaling 250 hours with evidence of positive evaluations.
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Modified Additional Graduation Options

Option 1

In addition to taking all seven required tests and passing the required courses, students must meet at least two of the following options:

- GPA of 2.5 during the junior and senior year
- Senior capstone project as defined by the state
- Work or community service of 120 hours
- Three or more credits earned through College Credit Plus
- Earn an industry-recognized credential
- Earn credit and set scores on Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams
- Earn a WorkKeys score of 3 on each test
- Earn the OhioMeansJobs readiness seal

Option 2

Students in a career-technical program must complete and pass courses that constitute the curriculum requirements, take all seven end of course exams, and finish a career-technical program that includes at least four courses in a single career pathway.

The student must also meet at least one of the options below:

- Earn a total score of proficient or better based on all career-technical exams or test modules;
- Earn an industry recognized credential or credentials that equal 12 points
- Complete a workplace experience totaling 250 hours with evidence of positive evaluations.

Permanent Graduation Requirements

1. Demonstrate Competency

Students must pass the states algebra I and English II tests. For students that have taken the required tests more than once without passing and have received remedial supports may show competency in one of the following ways:

- Earn credit for one math and/or one English court through College Credit Plus
- Demonstrate career readiness and technical skill through foundational and supporting options;
- Enter into a contract to enlist in the military upon graduation

2, Preparation for College or Career

Students must earn two diploma seals. One of the seals must be state defined to demonstrate academic, technical, and professional readiness for careers, college, the military or self-sustaining professions. The following are state system of diploma seals:

- OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal
- Honors Diploma Seal
- State Seal of Biliteracy
- Technology Seal
- Industry-Recognized Credential Seal
- Citizenship Seal
- College-Ready Seal
- Fine and Performing Arts Seal (locally defined)
- Military Enlistment Seal
- Student Engagement Seal (locally defined)
- Science Seal
- Community Service Seal (locally defined)