



Graduation Pathway Procedures

*All students in the class of 2023 and beyond must complete the following three requirements per Ohio Revised Code section 3313.618

- 4 English credits
- 4 Math credits
- 3 Science credits
 - Physical
 - Life
 - Advanced
- 3 Social Studies, including American History and government
- ½ Health credit
- ½ Physical Education credit
- 5 Elective credits (including financial literacy)

Note: There are no credit minimum exemptions for students with disabilities

- ELA II (score of 684 or higher)
- Algebra 1 or Math I (score of 684 or higher)
- College Credit Plus
- ACT/SAT score
- Military Enlistment
- Career Experience
 - WebXams
 - Industry Credential
 - Apprenticeship
 - 250 hours work-based learning
 - WorkKeys
 - Ohio Means Jobs seal

*Note: Students with disabilities may be exempted from meeting competency **AFTER** all other pathways have been attempted **AND** the IEP team has determined this will be of the best benefit to the student*

- Biliteracy
- Citizenship
- College Ready
- Community Service *
- Fine and Performing Arts *
- Ohio Means Jobs Readiness
- Honors Diploma
- Industry Recognized Credential
- Military Enlistment
- Science
- Student Engagement *
- Technology

*Note: There are no exemptions for students with disabilities as **ALL** students must earn at least 2 seals*
**Local -defined seals*

Graduation Requirements

Ohio law provides the following graduation requirements that are available for the classes of 2021 and beyond. Students entering ninth grade between **July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2019**, have the option to meet the new requirements outlined for the class of 2023 and beyond or meet the requirements of the original three pathways to graduation.

To earn a high school diploma in Ohio, you must complete the courses and requirements **and then** choose a pathway to show that you are ready for college or a job.

Complete Courses and Requirements:

Take and earn a national minimum of 20 credits in specific subjects. You also must receive instruction in economics and financial literacy and complete at least two semesters of fine arts.

Meet one of the following options:

OPTION 1

Satisfy **one** of the three **original pathways** to graduation that were in place when you entered high school. The pathways include:

1. **Ohio's State Tests** - Earn at least 18 points on seven end-of-course state tests. Each test score earns you up to five graduation points. You must have a minimum of four points in math, four points in English and six points across science and social studies.
2. **Industry credential and workforce readiness** - Earn a minimum of 12 points by receiving a State Board of Education-approved, industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and earn the required score on WorkKeys, a work-readiness test. The state of Ohio will pay one time for you to take the WorkKeys test.
3. **College and career readiness tests** - Earn remediation-free scores in mathematics and English language arts on either the ACT or SAT.

OPTION 2

Satisfy the **new graduation requirements** for the classes of 2023 and beyond by:

1. **Demonstrating Competency** - Students will demonstrate competency in the foundational areas of English language arts and mathematics or through alternative demonstrations, which include College Credit Plus, career-focused activities or military enlistment.
2. **Demonstrating Readiness** - Students will demonstrate readiness for their post-high school paths by earning two seals that allow them to demonstrate important foundational and well-rounded academic and technical knowledge, professional skills, as well as develop key social and emotional competencies and leadership and reasoning skills.

In order to graduate, a student must earn twenty units of credit which satisfy the following minimum subject area requirements:

English/Language
Arts 4 units

Mathematics 4 units

Science 3 units, including

(1 physical science)

(1 life science)

(1 advanced study in chemistry, physics, or other physical science, advanced biology or other life science, astronomy, physical geology, or other earth or space science, or computer science).
Computer science may not be substituted for a life science or biology course.

1 unit

($\frac{1}{2}$ American History,

($\frac{1}{2}$ American government).

Must include study of the following documents: the Declaration of Independence, the Northwest Ordinance, the Constitution of the United States (with emphasis on the Bill of Rights), and the Ohio Constitution. The General Assembly has further instructed as follows: "The study of each of the documents prescribed ... shall include study of that document in its original context. The study of American history and government ... shall include the historical evidence of the role of documents such as the Federalist Papers and the Anti-Federalist Papers to firmly establish the historical background leading to the establishment of the provisions of the Constitution and Bill of Rights."

History/Government

Social Studies 2 units.

Health $\frac{1}{2}$ unit

Physical Education $\frac{1}{2}$ unit

Electives 5 units. The five units of electives may consist of one or any combination of foreign language, fine arts, business, career-technical education, family and consumer sciences, technology (which may include computer science), agricultural education, a junior reserve officer training corps (JROTC) program, or English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies courses not otherwise required.

Required Total: 20 units minimum

Note the following:

- Credits toward either curricula may be granted for “advanced work” by students below the ninth grade if taught by a properly licensed instructor and specifically designated by the Board as meeting the high school curriculum requirements.
- Units earned in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies that are delivered through integrated academic and technical instruction (typically in a vocational school setting) will also satisfy the unit requirements set forth above.

There are two major “flexibility” concepts: 1. a broad authority given to schools to integrate course content from different academic subject areas into a single course, including a career-technical education course, for which the student may then receive graduation credits in multiple subject areas. 2. the authority to grant units of high school credits to students who demonstrate subject area competency through work-based learning experiences, internships, or cooperative education. Boards of education wishing to grant credit for subject area competencies demonstrated in these ways may do (beginning with the 2018–19 school year) in accordance with a framework developed by the Department of Education.

It should be noted that special requirements or options exist with respect to the social studies, physical education, and fine arts units required by the Ohio Core curriculum. Each school is required to integrate the study of economics and financial literacy into one or more of its existing social studies courses. Social studies must also include at least one-half unit of instruction in the study of world history and civilizations.

Fine arts, although classified as an elective high school course, is subject to the broader requirement that all students in grades 7-12 complete two semesters of fine arts.

Physical education, a minimum $\frac{1}{2}$ unit of the Ohio Core curriculum, may be waived by policy for any student who, during high school, has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, show choir, or cheerleading for at least two full seasons or in the junior reserve officer training corps for at least two full years. Students who are granted the physical education waiver must, however, “fill in” the $\frac{1}{2}$ unit with other course work consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction.

The School retains the right to impose “even more challenging” course requirements than those set in this Policy. This includes the right to require more than 20 units of academic credit.

If, however, a School wishes to require a foreign language as a graduation requirement, students must be allowed to substitute instruction in computer coding for a foreign language on a unit-for-unit basis.

Transferring students who previously attended an Ohio school complying with state minimum standards or an out-of-state school approved by the Department of Education must be placed at a grade level that corresponds to their previous placement, with full recognition for graduation units of credit previously earned. However, the specific academic subject grades from the previous school shall be accepted and the School shall translate the specific academic grades received at the previous school whenever this is deemed necessary due to the use of different grading scales or methodologies.

Students may be able to “test out” of the required class time or to earn such credits through other alternative means. Under a “credit flexibility” plan, students may earn high school credits by demonstrating competency in the subject area on a test or through the pursuit of other educational options. See Policy No. 3620 Credit Flexibility Plan.

**Graduation Plans/ Students at Risk of Not Qualifying for a
High School Diploma**

The Governing Authority values a high rate of graduation for its students and recognizes the importance of one's high school diploma for future success. A "graduation plan" will be developed for all students in grades nine through 12.

Graduation Plan

The graduation plan will address the student's academic pathway to meet the curriculum requirements specified by the School (Policy 4301, Graduation Requirements) and to satisfy the graduation conditions under section 3313.618 of the Ohio Revised Code.

A School representative counselor will develop the graduation plan jointly with the student, and update the plan each school year in which the student is enrolled, until the student qualifies for a high school diploma. The School will invite a student's parent, guardian, or custodian to assist in developing and updating the graduation plan.

A student's individualized education program may be used in lieu of developing a graduation plan under this policy, if the IEP contains academic goals substantively similar to a graduation plan.

At-Risk Students

The School will identify students at risk of not qualifying for a high school diploma by measuring a student's lack of adequate progress in meeting the terms of a graduation plan developed under this policy. Other criteria for identifying at-risk students will also include excessive absences or misconduct.

When the graduation plan is developed and updated annually, the School will determine if a student is not making adequate progress in meeting the terms of a graduation plan. If the student is not making adequate progress to meet the terms of the plan, the School will consider the student to be at risk of not receiving a high school diploma, and will notify the student's parent, guardian, or custodian in writing. The notification will include: (1) a statement that the student is at risk of not qualifying for a high school diploma; (2) a description of the School's curriculum requirements (or the student's IEP, as applicable), as well as Ohio graduation conditions prescribed under section 3313.618 of the Revised Code; and (3) a description of additional instructional or support services available to the at-risk student. The notice will be sent each year that a student is identified as being at risk.

In conjunction with the student's Student Success Plan (Policy 3680, Policy on Career Advising, and Form 3681, Student Success Plan), the School offers the following instructional and support services to assist the at-risk student:

[Choose from the following options:]

- () Mentoring programs [Note: consider using the OhioMeansJobs-ReadinessSeal as a guide]*
- () Tutoring programs*
- () High school credit through demonstrations of subject area competency under division (J) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code [Note: Such as credit flexibility options]*
- () Adjusted curriculum options*
- () Career-technical programs*
- () Mental health services*
- () Physical health care services*
- () Family engagement and support services.*

Ohio: R.C. 3313.617

Cross Reference: Policy 3680, Policy on Career Advising; Policy 4301, Graduation Requirements