

Graduation Requirements for Standard Diploma Options Graduating Classes of 2008, 2009, and 2010

Subject Area	Graduation Requirements of <u>Standard</u> 24-Credit Program	Graduation Requirements of <u>Three-Year College</u> <u>Preparatory Program</u>	Graduation Requirements of <u>Three-Year Career</u> <u>Preparatory Program</u>
English	4 credits with major concentration in composition and literature	4 credits with major concentration in composition and literature	4 credits with major concentration in composition and literature
Mathematics	3 credits, one of which must be algebra I or its equivalent	3 credits at the algebra I level or above from the list of courses that qualify for state university admission	3 credits, one of which must be algebra I or its equivalent
Science	3 credits in natural science, two of which must have a laboratory requirement	3 credits in natural science, two of which must have a laboratory requirement	3 credits in natural science, two of which must have a laboratory requirement
Social Studies	1 credit world history 1 credit American history .5 credit American government .5 credit economics	3 credits (world history, American history, American government, economics)	3 credits (world history, American history, American government, economics)
World Languages	Not required for high school graduation, but required for state university system admission	2 credits in the same language or demonstrated proficiency in a second language	Not required
Practical Arts/Performing Fine Arts	1 credit practical arts career/technical education or exploratory career education, or 1 credit performing fine arts, or .5 credit in practical arts and .5 credit in performing fine arts	Not required	Not required
Life Management Skills	.5 credit	Not required	Not required
Physical Education	1 credit to include .5 credit personal fitness and .5 credit physical education elective	Not required	Not required
Electives	8.5 credits	3 credits	2 credits unless 5 credits in career/technical education
TOTAL	24 credits	18 credits	18 credits
State Assessment Requirements	Earn passing scores on the grade 10 FCAT	Earn passing scores on the grade 10 FCAT	Earn passing scores on the grade 10 FCAT
Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirements	Cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale	Cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the courses required for the college preparatory program and earn a weighted or un-weighted grade that earns at least 3.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits	Earn a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the course required for the career preparatory program and earn at least 2.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits.

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***Note: Regardless of the graduation option chosen, students entering grade nine (9) in 2006-2007 for the first time must achieve a passing grade on the FCAT writing in addition to the FCAT reading and mathematics given in grade ten (10). In all options, students must pass the appropriate FCAT tests or receive a concordant score on the SAT or ACT after the third FCAT testing attempt.

***All courses earned toward the college preparatory program must satisfy admission requirements for the state university system. Six of the 18 credits must be in classes that are honors, dual enrollment, advanced placement, International Baccalaureate, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or specifically listed as rigorous by the Department of Education.

***Special Diploma options are available for students with disabilities if students are not able to meet requirements for a standard diploma. The decision regarding the type of diploma that best meets an ESE child's need is determined by the Individual Education Plan Team.

***Florida Statute 1003.429 indicates that "If the student and parent fail to select a graduation option, the student shall be considered to have selected the general requirements (4 Year Standard Diploma) for high school graduation" which includes 24 credits. The State Department of Education may modify these requirements as they set policy on new legislation.

How do you decide which diploma option is right for you?

NOTE:

1. You must have a full semester of classes each semester.
2. Choose your option carefully—once you determine your option, you are committed for the entire school year (2 semesters).
3. Your option can only be changed during spring registration for the following year.

Consider carefully the following questions in determining which diploma option is right for you:

- **How** would this option impact my chances to receive scholarships?
- **What** would be the impact of this option on my participation in athletics or extracurricular activities?
- **Would** this option affect my ability to earn the Florida Bright Futures Scholarships?
- **How** would this option affect my ability to take free college courses through advanced placement or dual enrollment or to complete free technical training while in high school?
- **What** would be the impact of this option on my ability to participate in areas of interest such as drama, band, the arts, student government, and senior activities?
- **What** would be the impact of this option on my college and career plans?