

Graduation Requirements for Standard Diploma Options
Graduating Classes of 2011 and beyond.

Subject Area	Graduation Requirements of <u>Standard 24-Credit Program</u>	Graduation Requirements of <u>Three-Year College Preparatory Program</u>	Graduation Requirements of <u>Three-Year Career 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	4 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, two of which must include a laboratory component	3 credits, two of which must include a laboratory component	3 credits, two of which must include a laboratory component
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 years, same language minimum recommendation)	2 credits in the same language or demonstrated proficiency in a second language	Not required
Performing Fine Arts	1 credit	Not required	Not required
HOPE (Health Opportunities through Physical Education)	1 credit	Not required	Not required
Career Pathway	4 credits	Not required	3 credits in a single vocational or career education program or 3 credits in career and technical certificate dual enrollment, or 5 credits in vocational or career technical courses;
Electives	4 credits	3 credits	2 credits unless 5 credits in career/technical education
TOTAL	24 credits	18 credits (at least 6 of 18 credits must be received in classes that are honors, dual enrollment, or advanced placement)	18 credits (at least 6 of 18 credits must be received in classes that are honors, dual enrollment, or advanced placement)
State Assessment Requirements	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.		
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 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 courses required for the career preparatory program and earn at least 2.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits.

Restrictions for College Preparatory Diploma or Career Preparatory Diploma

To enter a 3-year option, a student must complete the following:

- A student shall have a signed parental consent;
- The student shall have achieved the following FCAT scores on the most recent testing:
 - ✓ Reading – Level 3 or above;
 - ✓ Mathematics – Level 3 or above; and
 - ✓ Writing – Level 3.5 or above.
- Selection must be made prior to the end of grade 9; and
- Transfer students from out-of-state or private schools entering after grade 9 have until

the end of the first semester in grade 10 to make their selections.

Automatic Change of Program

A student who selects one of the 3-year programs shall automatically move to the 4-year program under the following conditions:

- Exercises his or her right to change during spring registration;
- Fails to earn 5 credits by the end of grade 9 or fails to earn 11 credits by the end of grade 10;
- Does not achieve a score of 3.5 or higher on the grade 10 FCAT Writing assessment; and
- At the end of grade 11, does not meet the FCAT graduation requirements and the grade point average requirements.

Choosing the Right Standard Diploma Option

- ❖ NOTE: Students must have a full schedule of classes each semester. Any exceptions must be approved by the Assistant Superintendent for School Support.

Students should choose their options carefully. Once the option is chosen, the student is committed for the entire school year (2 semesters).

An option can only be changed during spring registration for the following year.

Students should consider carefully the following questions in determining which diploma option is right:

- What would be the impact on my college and career plans?
- How would this impact my chances to get scholarships?
- What would be the impact on my participation in athletics or in extracurricular activities?
- Would this affect my ability to earn a Bright Futures Scholarship?
- How would this 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 on my ability to participate in areas of interest such as drama, band, the arts, student government, and senior activities?

***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.