

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Because graduation from high school provides students with opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment, the Governing Board desires to prepare each student to obtain a diploma of high school graduation.

I. Course Requirements*

To obtain a diploma of graduation from high school, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9 through 12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified: (Education Code 51225.3)

- A. A total of 230 semester periods of credit earned in grades 9 - 12.
- B. Included within the 230 credits that students must earn are:
 1. Four courses of English in grades 9-12: English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12 or ESL Equivalent.
 2. Three courses of Mathematics in grades 9 - 12. One course of the mathematics requirement may be earned by passing a college preparatory course (Geometry, Algebra II) in grade 8. In grades 9 - 12, one course of the mathematics requirement may be earned in a department other than the Mathematics Department. Beginning with the graduating class of 2003-2004, Algebra I (or a course equivalent) will be required for graduation (SB 1354). Algebra may be taken prior to high school and still meet the SB1354 criteria.
 3. Two courses of Science in grades 9 - 12. One year of science study must be completed in both a physical and a biological science.
 4. One course of World Civilization in grades 9 - 10.
 5. One course of United States History in grade 11
 6. One semester of American Government in grade 12.
 7. One semester of Economics or Consumer Economics in grade 12.
 8. Four semesters of Physical Education in grades 9 - 10.** The California Health curriculum will be integrated into the 9th grade P.E. course, beginning with the 2008-09 school year, and the graduating class of 2012.
 9. Beginning with the class of 2003-2004, 2 semesters of Visual and Performing Arts (see UC/CSU admission rules).

10. One year of a Practical Art/Career Technical Education (CTE) course, beginning with the graduating class of 2012.
- * The Board of Trustees delegates to the Superintendent the authority to waive a high school graduation requirement when it is necessary to meet an individual student's need and is not in conflict with the California Education Code.
 - ** Tenth grade students with scheduling conflicts may meet the second year requirement in subsequent years with Principal's approval.

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with the law.

THE CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM FOR THE CLASSES OF 2006 AND LATER

Beginning in the 2005-06 school year and each year thereafter, each student completing grade 12 shall successfully pass the state exit examinations in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation.

Supplemental instruction shall be offered to any student who does not demonstrate "sufficient progress" toward passing the exit examination. (Education Code 37252, 60851)