Ohio’s High School Graduation Requirements

Before you know it, you’ll be receiving your high school diploma. Ohio is giving you new ways to show the world what you can do with it.

As a student entering ninth grade on or after July 1, 2019, Ohio’s new high school graduation requirements give you more flexibility to choose a graduation pathway that builds on your strengths and passions – one that ensures you are ready for your next steps and excited about the future.

First, cover the basics

You must earn a minimum total of 20 credits in specified subjects and take your required tests. Then, decide how you will round out your diploma requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English language arts</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical education</td>
<td>½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Other Requirements

You also must receive instruction in economics and financial literacy and complete at least two semesters of fine arts. Your district may require more than 20 credits to graduate.

Second, show competency

Earn a passing score on Ohio’s high school Algebra I and English II tests. Students who do not pass the test will be offered additional support and must retake the test at least once.

Is testing not your strength? After you have taken your tests, there are three additional ways to show competency!

Option 1. Demonstrate Two Career-Focused Activities*

- Foundational: Proficient scores on WebXams
- A 12-point industry credential
- A pre-apprenticeship or acceptance into an approved apprenticeship program

Supporting:

- Work-based learning
- Earn the required score on WorkKeys
- Earn the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal

Option 2. Enlist in the Military

Show evidence that you have signed a contract to enter a branch of the U.S. armed services upon graduation.

Option 3. Complete College Coursework

Earn credit for one college-level math and/or college-level English course through Ohio’s free College Credit Plus program.

*At least one of the two must be a Foundational skill
Third, show readiness

Earn two of the following diploma seals, choosing those that line up with your goals and interests. These seals give you the chance to demonstrate academic, technical and professional skills and knowledge that align to your passions, interests and planned next steps after high school.

At least one of the two must be Ohio-designed:
- OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal (Ohio)
- Industry-Recognized Credential Seal (Ohio)
- College-Ready Seal (Ohio)
- Military Enlistment Seal (Ohio)
- Citizenship Seal (Ohio)
- Science Seal (Ohio)
- Honors Diploma Seal (Ohio)
- Seal of Biliteracy (Ohio)
- Technology Seal (Ohio)
- Community Service Seal (Local)
- Fine and Performing Arts Seal (Local)
- Student Engagement Seal (Local)

Want to learn more? Contact your school counselor or visit education.ohio.gov/graduation