

Graduation Requirements – What Parents and Students Need to Know

Students who entered Grade 9 in the 2014-2015 School Year and Forward	What are the requirements for the 24-credit standard diploma option?
<p>What are the diploma options?</p> <p>Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24-credit standard diploma • 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option • International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum 	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4 Credits English Language Arts (ELA)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA I, II, III, IV • ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement.
<p>What are the state assessment requirements?</p> <p>Students must pass the following statewide assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 10 ELA (or ACT/SAT concordant score) • Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) and the results constitute 30 percent of the final course grade or a comparative score on the ACT/SAT/PSAT/PERT * <p>Students must participate in the EOC assessments and the results constitute 30 percent of the final course grade. These assessments are in the following subjects:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">✓ U.S. History ✓ Geometry ✓ Biology I</p> <p>*Beginning with the students who entered Grade 9 in 2018-2019, PERT cannot be used as a comparative score.</p>	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">4 Credits Mathematics</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Algebra I and one of which must be Geometry • Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry).
<p>What is the credit acceleration program (CAP)?</p> <p>This program allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes an Advanced Placement (AP) examination, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include the following subjects:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">✓ Algebra I ✓ Biology I ✓ Geometry ✓ U.S. History</p>	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3 Credits Science</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Biology I, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses. • Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component. • An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I) • An identified rigorous computer science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I)
<p>What are the graduation requirements for students with disabilities?</p> <p>Two options are available only to students with disabilities. Both require the 24 credits listed in the table and both allow students to substitute a career and technical (CTE) course with related content for one credit in ELA IV, mathematics, science and social studies (excluding Algebra I, Geometry, Biology I and U.S. History).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with significant cognitive disabilities may earn credits via access courses and be assessed via an alternate assessment. • Students who choose the academic and employment option must earn at least .5 credit via paid employment. • 	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">3 Credits Social Studies</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in World History • 1 credit in U.S. History • .5 credit in U.S. Government • .5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy
	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts†</div>
	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1.5 Credit Physical Education†</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To include the integration of health • One-half (.5) credit in personal fitness (state required course) • One-half (.5) credit in physical education (state requirement) • One-half (.5) credit in physical education (School Board requirement)
	<p>† Special Note: Eligible courses and eligible course substitutions are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory</p>
	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">7.5 Elective Credits</div>
	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">1 Online Course within the 24 Credits</div>
	<div style="background-color: #e2e3e5; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Other Requirements</div> <p>Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and meet state testing requirements.</p>

Graduation Requirements continued

<p>What are the requirements for standard diploma designations?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scholar Diploma Designation</p> <p>In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earn 1 credit in Algebra II; • Pass the Geometry EOC; • Earn 1 credit in statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course; • Pass the Biology I EOC; • Earn 1 credit in chemistry or physics; • Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics; • Pass the U.S. History EOC; • Earn 2 credits in the same world language; and • Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course. <p>A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology I or U.S. History course and the student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and • Earns the minimum score to earn college credit. <p style="text-align: center;">Merit Diploma Designation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the standard high school diploma requirements • Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (1003.492, F.S.) <p>Can a student who selects the 24-credit program graduate early?</p> <p>Yes, a student who completes all the 24-credit program requirements for a standard diploma may graduate in fewer than eight semesters.</p> <p>What is the distinction between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 3 elective credits required • Physical Education is not required • Online course is not required <p>All other graduation requirements for a 24-credit standard diploma must be met (1003.4282(3)(a)-(e), F.S.).</p> <p>Where is information on Bright Futures Scholarships located?</p> <p>The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program rewards students for their academic achievements during high school by providing funding to attend a postsecondary institution in Florida. For more information, visit Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program</p>	<p>What are the public postsecondary options?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">State University System (SUS)</p> <p>Admission into Florida’s public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous curriculum in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida’s public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements (credit earned by industry certification does not count for SUS admission):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school graduation with a standard diploma • Admission test scores • 16 Credits of approved college preparatory academic courses • 4 English (3 with substantial writing) • 4 Mathematics (Algebra I level and above) • 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) • 3 Social Science • 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language) • 2 Approved electives <p style="text-align: center;">State University System of Florida</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Florida College System</p> <p>The 28-member Florida College System offers career-related certificates and Associate in Science degrees that prepare students to go directly into the workforce, as well as Associate of Arts degrees that prepare students to transfer to a bachelor’s degree program. Many also offer baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields. The Florida College System has an open door policy enabling students who have earned a standard high school diploma, high school equivalency diploma or have demonstrated success in postsecondary coursework will be admitted to an associate degree program.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Division of Florida Colleges</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Career and Technical Centers</p> <p>Florida also offers students 48 accredited career and technical centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.</p> <p>Where is information on financial aid located?</p> <p>The Office of Student Financial Assistance State Programs administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships. To learn more, visit Office of Student Financial Assistance</p>
--	---