

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to satisfy the graduation requirements in effect at the time the student first enters the ninth grade regardless of the date the student graduates, unless the requirements change for the entire class, **or** unless requirements are changed for all students by Florida Statute.

For Students Who Entered Ninth Grade In 2003-2004, 2004-2005, or 2005-2006 School Year			
Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program^{1, 2}	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program²
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	4 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component	3 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component	3 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component
Social Studies	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics .5 credit Contemporary History .5 credit Law Studies	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics
Foreign Language	Not required for high school graduation, but required for admission into state universities	2 credits in the same language or demonstrated proficiency in a second language	Not Required

**For Students Who Entered Ninth Grade
In 2003-2004, 2004-2005, or 2005-2006 School Year**

Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program ^{1, 2}	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program ²
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	3 credits in single vocational/career education program OR 3 credits in single career/technical certificate dual enrollment OR 5 credits in vocational/career education courses (including 3 credits in one sequential career and technical program)
Life Management Skills	.5 credit	Not Required	Not Required
Physical Education	1 credit, including .5 credit personal fitness and .5 credit physical education elective	Not Required	Not Required
Electives	7.5 credits	3 credits (must meet state university admission requirements)	2 credits unless 5 credits in career/technical education earned
Total	26 credits	18 credits	18 credits
State Assessment Requirements	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)
Grade Point Average Requirements (GPA)	Earn a cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale	Earn a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the courses required for the college prep program and earn a weighted or unweighted 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 courses required for the career prep program and earn at least 2.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits

- ¹All courses earned toward the 18-credit/3-year College Prep Program must satisfy admission requirements for the state university system. To determine which courses meet state university system admissions requirements, please use the [Comprehensive Course Table](#) or see school guidance counselor for assistance. At least 6 of the 18 credits must be in classes that are honors, dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), or specifically listed as rigorous by the Department of Education.

- ²Students who chose a three-year program prior to July 1, 2004, must meet with their counselor for information regarding graduation requirements.

For Students Who Entered Ninth Grade In 2006-2007 School Year			
Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program ¹	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program
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	4 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component	3 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component	3 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component
Social Studies	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics .5 credit Contemporary History .5 credit Law Studies	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics
Foreign Language	Not required for high school graduation, but required for admission into state universities	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	3 credits in single vocational/career education program OR 3 credits in single career/technical certificate dual enrollment OR 5 credits in vocational/career education courses (including 3 credits in one sequential career and technical program)
Life Management Skills	.5 credit	Not Required	Not Required
Physical Education	1 credit, including .5 credit personal fitness and .5 credit physical education elective	Not Required	Not Required

For Students Who Entered Ninth Grade In 2006-2007 School Year			
Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program ¹	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program
Electives	7.5 credits	3 credits (must meet state university admission requirements)	2 credits unless 5 credits in career/technical education earned
Total	26 credits	18 credits	18 credits
State Assessment Requirements	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)
Grade Point Average Requirements (GPA)	Earn a cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale	Earn a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the courses required for the college prep program and earn a weighted or unweighted 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 courses required for the career prep program and earn at least 2.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits

- ¹All courses earned toward the 18-credit/3-year College Prep Program must satisfy admission requirements for the state university system. To determine which courses meet state university system admissions requirements, please use the [Comprehensive Course Table](#) or see school guidance counselor for assistance. At least 6 of the 18 credits must be in classes that are dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), or specifically listed as rigorous by the Department of Education.

For Students Entering Ninth Grade In 2007-2008 School Year and Thereafter			
Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program ¹	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program
English	4 credits, with major concentration in composition, reading for information, 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, or a higher-level mathematics course	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

**For Students Entering Ninth Grade
In 2007-2008 School Year and Thereafter**

Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program ¹	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program
Science	4 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component	3 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component	3 credits in natural science; two must have a laboratory component
Social Studies	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics .5 credit Contemporary History .5 credit Law Studies	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics	1 credit World history 1 credit American history .5 credit American govt. .5 credit Economics
Foreign Language	Not required for high school graduation, but required for admission into state universities	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
Physical Education	1 credit in physical education to include the integration of health ³	Not Required	Not Required
Electives	8 credits, of which: ● 4 credits in a major area of interest ● 4 credits in elective courses, which may be combined to allow for a second major area of interest, a minor area of interest (3 credits), individual elective courses, intensive reading or mathematics intervention courses, or credit recovery courses	3 credits in electives	3 credits in single vocational/career education program and 2 credits in electives OR 3 credits in single career/technical certificate dual enrollment and 2 credits in electives OR 5 credits in vocational/career education (including 3 credits in one sequential career and technical education program)
Total	28 credits	18 credits	18 credits

For Students Entering Ninth Grade In 2007-2008 School Year and Thereafter			
Subject Area	Graduation Requirements 4-year Traditional Program	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year College Preparatory Program ¹	Graduation Requirements of 18-Credit/3-year Career Preparatory Program
State Assessment Requirements	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)	Earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT)
Grade Point Average Requirements (GPA)	Earn a unweighted cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale	Earn a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the courses required for the college prep program and earn a weighted or unweighted 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 courses required for the career prep program and earn at least 2.0 points or its equivalent in each of the 18 required credits

- ¹All courses earned toward the 18-credit/3-year College Prep Program must satisfy admission requirements for the state university system. To determine which courses meet state university system admissions requirements, please use the [Comprehensive Course Table](#) or see school guidance counselor for assistance. At least 6 of the 18 credits must be in classes that are dual enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), or specifically listed as rigorous by the Department of Education.

FCAT CONCORDANT SCORES

2005-2008 Concordant Scores Assessment		
Test Type	Reading	Mathematics
FCAT	300	300
SAT	410	370
ACT	15	15

FCAT WAIVER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

For students with disabilities, the IEP team may waive passage of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) as a requirement for graduation with a standard diploma. In order for the FCAT graduation requirement to be waived, the IEP team must meet and compile the form titled Waiver of Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Graduation Requirement for Students with Disabilities during the student's senior year to determine whether or not the FCAT can accurately measure the student's abilities, taking into consideration allowable accommodations.

If there is sufficient evidence that the student has mastered the applicable Sunshine State Standards and the IEP team determines that the FCAT is **not** an accurate measure of the student's ability, even with allowable accommodations, the FCAT requirement may be waived and the student may graduate with a standard diploma. In order to be considered for the waiver from the FCAT graduation requirement, the student must:

- 1) Be identified as a student with a disability, as defined in Section 1007.02(2), Florida Statutes
- 2) Have an individual education plan (IEP)
- 3) Be a senior or student with disabilities who remains enrolled seeking a standard diploma for whom the FCAT is the graduation test
- 4) Have demonstrated mastery of the grade 10 Sunshine State Standards
- 5) Have taken the grade 10 FCAT with appropriate allowable accommodations at least twice to include March of the senior year or if not continuously enrolled in public school in Florida, at least once during each year of enrollment in grades 10, 11 or 12, including March of the senior year.
- 6) Have participated in intensive remediation for FCAT Reading and/or FCAT Mathematics, if passing scores were not earned
- 7) Be progressing towards meeting the state's 24 credit/course and 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) requirements and any other district requirements for graduation with a standard diploma.

ACCELERATED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION OPTIONS

Prior to selecting an accelerated graduation option three requirements **must** be met:

- Designated school personnel shall meet with the student and student's parent/guardian to give an explanation of the relative requirements, advantages, and disadvantages of each graduation option. [Florida Statute §1003.429(2)];
- The student shall submit to the high school principal and school counselor a signed parental consent to enter the three-year accelerated graduation program. [Florida Statute §1003.429(2)]; and
- Earn passing scores on the FCAT as defined in s. [1008.22\(3\)\(c\)](#) or scores on a standardized test that are concordant with passing scores on the FCAT as defined in s. [1008.22\(9\)](#).

Parental Notification

The district school board shall provide each student in grades 6 through 9 and their parents with information concerning the 3-year and 4-year high school graduation options (general high school graduation, 3-year standard college preparatory program, 3-year career preparatory program), including the respective curriculum requirements for those options, so that the students and their parents may select the postsecondary education or career plan that best fits their needs. The information shall include a timeframe for achieving each graduation option.

[Florida Statute §1003.429(3)]

Early Graduation for Standard Diploma (Minimum 24 Credit) Students

Students who complete the requirements for graduation before the semester of graduation for their cohort class may elect to:

- Graduate at the end of the semester in which the requirements have been completed.

OR

- Continue enrollment as full-time students in the School District of Monroe County. The grades earned by the student will become a part of the student's permanent record and calculated in the student's GPA.

Such students **must** submit a request to graduate or continue enrollment to the principal prior to the beginning of the school year in which the student will complete the requirements for graduation. The students may continue as students in the school district until the end of the regular school year in which their cohort class graduates. The principal may deny continued enrollment for a student who has met graduation requirements.

Early graduation students may participate in the end-of-year graduation ceremonies.

PROGRAM ACCOMMODATIONS/MODIFICATIONS

ELL Students

ELL students will be enrolled in English through ESOL I, II, III and IV or English I, II, III and IV to guarantee the necessary credits needed for graduation. Any exceptions must be documented through an ELL committee meeting.

Students with Disabilities

504 Students

The Student Services Team (SST) or 504 Team (multidisciplinary team) must meet and determine if a documented disability substantially limits the individual student's ability to care for one's self at school (i.e., walk, see, hear, speak, breathe or learn in the school environment). The team will consider a variety of sources such as: medical information, behavioral observations, checklists, classroom tests, teacher recommendations/reports, current grades, academic history, standardized-test reports or other reports. Any deviation and/or exemptions to the general-education content requirements would be the decision of the SST/504 team (with parent(s)/guardian(s) notification) and would be addressed on the Section 504 Accommodation Plan. Thus, the individual student's Section 504 Plan would document the accommodation to the general-education content requirements needed for that student to ensure an equal opportunity to master the general-education content requirements.

ESE Students

An ESE student is awarded credit toward a standard diploma under the following conditions

:

- takes and passes a course with general education students that is modified to accommodate the student's exceptionality (Note: Modifications to general education courses shall not include modifications to the curriculum descriptions/frameworks or student performance standards.); AND/OR
- takes an ESE course as an elective.

Course accommodations may include any or all of the following:

- alternate instructional materials
- amount of instructional time
- instructional methods
- test administration procedures
- class section assignment
- special communication systems

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

A grade 9 or grade 10 student entering high school from another district, state or country is required to satisfy all of the district graduation requirements. A student transferring into grade 11 or 12 must take a full schedule of courses to comply as closely as possible with the graduation requirements of the class. Grade 11 or 12 students will be assigned full class loads each year and will take as many of the required courses as possible. Students should not be required to take two courses in the same discipline concurrently.

ELL students who enter the district with incomplete records shall be placed in the English or English through ESOL class appropriate for their grade level. Upon passing the English or English through ESOL class in which they are enrolled, ELL students with incomplete transfer records will be awarded credit(s) for all English or English through ESOL courses that are sequentially lower than the course they have successfully completed.

A transfer student who has completed all courses and would be eligible for a high school diploma in the previous state, district or country, shall be eligible to receive a diploma from the Monroe County School District. However, the student **must** take and earn a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT or a standardized test that is concordant with the passing score on the FCAT (ACT or SAT). Florida Statute §1003.428 (4)(b)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A SPECIAL DIPLOMA

The document *Florida Course Descriptions, Exceptional Student Education* contains a listing and description of course options available along with suggested course performance objectives and credit requirements.

Students entering high school in the year 1999-2000 and thereafter must demonstrate mastery of the Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma at a level (independent, supported or participatory) to be determined, and reviewed at least annually, through the Transition IEP process. The document titled *Expected Levels of Functioning Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma* shall be used to document a student's expected level of functioning on each of the standards. This form shall be kept with the IEP document.

As all ESE courses are repeatable or multi-credit, the particular course requirements and course performance objectives that a student **must** master to earn each credit **must** be specified on an individual basis for each student. Targeted course requirements and objectives and a record of individual student mastery **must** be documented in one of two ways: (1) use of the CD-ROM ESE *Instruction Manager* or (2) a school/teacher developed student course achievement record.

Summary Of Graduation Options

The following is a summary of graduation options for students with disabilities. The diploma option is indicated on the student's IEP.

Standard Diploma - For those exceptional students meeting the following requirements:

- Completion of specified credit requirements. All courses must be basic education courses EXCEPT electives which may be basic, exceptional student, or vocational courses.
- A grade point average of 2.0.
- Passing score on Grade 10 FCAT.

Special Diploma

Option 1. For those exceptional students who are mildly disabled such as (EBD, ID, SLD, PI, LI, and HI) meeting the following requirements for core courses:

- Subject area requirements
 - **English 4 credits
 - Mathematics 3 credits
 - * Science 2 credits
 - * Social Studies 2 credits
 - Physical Education ½ credit
 - Personal Fitness or Health & Safety ½ credit
 - Career Preparation 1 credit
 - Life Management ½ credit
 - Total Core Credits 13.5 credits**
 - Electives 10.5 credits**
 - Total credits 24 credits**

* Vocational courses may be substituted for 1 science and/or 1 social studies

** 1 Reading course may be substituted for 1 English

- A grade point average of 2.0.
- Mastery of Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma.

Option 1. For those exceptional students who are moderately and severely/profoundly intellectually disabled must meet the following requirements for the core courses:

- Subject area requirements
 - Academic Skills..... 3 credits
 - Communication Skills..... 4 credits
 - Personal and Home Living Skills 4 credits
 - Leisure and Recreation Skills 3 credits
 - Community and Social Living Skills 4 credits
 - Career Preparation 2 credits
 - Total Core Credits..... 20 credits
 - Electives 4 credits
 - Total credits **24 credits**
- A grade point average of 2.0.
- Mastery of Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma.

Option 2. For those exceptional students meeting requirements under Employment and Community Competencies. Basic Requirements – the student must:

- Achieve all annual goals and short term objectives related to employment and community competencies specified by the Transition IEP.
- Be successfully employed in a community-based job for a minimum of one semester, at or above minimum wage in compliance with the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act.
- Demonstrate mastery of competencies specified in the Employment and Community Competencies Training Plan.

Certificate of Completion

A student who has meet all requirements for graduation for standard diploma with the exception of passing the FCAT shall be awarded a Certificate of Completion, or a Special Diploma.

Special Certificate of Completion

A student, who has met the credit requirements as specified for a special diploma but fails to master the specified Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma appropriate to the student’s functioning level, shall be awarded a Special Certificate of Completion.

NOTE: A student who receives a special diploma or special certificate of completion shall not be precluded from working towards a standard diploma or receiving a free appropriate education until age 22.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) REQUIREMENTS

GPA is defined as that numerical average represented by the point value of the letter grades earned divided by the number of courses. The point value is based on a standard scale of 4.0 with no weighting factor for different levels of difficulty. The scale is based on 4.0 (**A**), 3.0 (**B**), 2.0 (**C**), 1.0 (**D**) and 0 for any other grade.

Graduation requires a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale for the credits required for graduation. Any course not replaced according the Forgiveness Rule shall be included in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average required for graduation. [Florida Statute §1003.43 (5)(e)1] A transfer grade of **P** shall not be calculated for GPA purposes, but will receive course credit.