

Mississippi Diploma Options

Graduation Requirements



Northwest Rankin High School
Home of the Cougars

8th Grade Parent Meeting



TRADITIONAL DIPLOMA OPTION



Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Math	4	Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I
Social Studies	3 ½	World History (1) US History (1) US Government (1/2) Economics (1/2) MS Studies (1/2)
Physical Ed	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
College & Career Readiness	1	Must occur in the students junior or senior year, or in the students completion of a 4-year course of study.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Electives	5 ½	
TOTAL	24	

Requirements

- Students must identify an endorsement prior to entering 9th grade. The three endorsement options are: Career & Technical, Academic, and Distinguished Academic endorsement

*Additional Information-

- Endorsement requirements can only be changed with parental permission.
- Students are able to earn more than one endorsement.

Traditional Diploma with Career and Technical Endorsement



Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects	
English	4	English I	English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I	
Science	3	Biology I	
Social Studies	3½	1 World History ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies	1 U.S. History ½ Economics
Physical Education	½		
Health	½		
Art	1		
Career & College Readiness	1	Must occur in the students junior or senior year, or in the students completion of a 4-year course of study.	
Technology or Computer Science	1		
CTE Electives	4	Must complete a 4-course sequential program of study to be a completer in CTE	
Additional Electives	3½	Electives must meet the advanced elective requirements in the IHL CPC	
Total	26		

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
- Earn silver level on ACT WorkKeys
- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One CTE dual credit course or the Community College approved CTE articulated dual credit
- Work-Based Learning experience or Career Pathway Experience
- Earn a State Board of Education approved national credential



Northwest Rankin High School
Home of the Cougars

Traditional Diploma with Academic Endorsement



Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I + two (2) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	3	Biology I + two (2) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	3½	1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	Must occur in the students junior or senior year, or in the students completion of a 4-year course of study.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	7½	Electives must meet the advanced elective requirements in the IHL CPC
Total	26	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
- Courses must meet MS IHL college preparatory **required** curriculum (CPC) (see slide 7 for course listing)
- Earn MS IHL and Community College readiness benchmarks (ACT sub scores of 17 English and 19 math or completion of appropriate college-ready courses in senior year or SAT equivalency)
- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One AP course with a C or higher and take the appropriate AP exam
- One academic dual credit course earning a C or higher



Northwest Rankin High School
Home of the Cougars

Traditional Diploma with Distinguished Endorsement



Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	English I English II
Mathematics	4	Algebra I + three (3) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	4	Biology I + three (3) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	4	1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies ½ Intro to Geography
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career & College Readiness	1	Must occur in the students junior or senior year, or in the students completion of a 4-year course of study.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	8	Electives must meet the advanced elective requirements in the IHL CPC
Total	28	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 3.0
- Courses must meet MS IHL CPC **recommended** curriculum (see slide 7 for course listings)
- Earn national college-readiness benchmarks on each subtest established by ACT (sub scores of 18 in English and 22 in math) or SAT equivalency
- Earn four additional Carnegie Units for a total of 28

Must successfully complete one of the following:

- One AP course with a B or higher and take the appropriate AP exam
- One academic dual credit course earning B or higher

Alternate Diploma Option for Students with Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD)

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	Alternate English Elements I-IV
Mathematics	4	Alternate Math Elements I-III Alternate Algebra Elements
Science	2	Alternate Biology Elements Alternate Science Elements II
Social Studies	4	Alternate History Elements (Strands: U.S. History and World History) Alternate Social Studies Elements (Strands: Economics and U.S. Government)
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	Alternate Health Benefits
Art	1	
Vocational Readiness	4	Career Readiness I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Employability, and Social)
Life Skills Development	4	Life Skills Development I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Personal Care, and Social)
Additional Electives	2	
Total	24	

Requirements

- Only Students with a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD) ruling are eligible to earn the Alternate Diploma.
- Students with a SCD ruling are required to participate in the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program-Alternate Assessment (MAAP-A) and achieve a **score of TBD.**

Note: The Alternate Diploma is not equivalent to a traditional high school diploma and is not recognized by post-secondary entities that require a traditional high school diploma.



Northwest Rankin High School
Home of the Cougars

Requirements for Early Dismissal during Senior year

Students who do not have an ACT subscore of 17 in English AND an ACT subscore of 19 in Math (or SAT equivalency or the Silver level on the ACT WorkKeys for the CTE endorsement) must meet ALL 4 of the following requirements in order to be eligible to have early dismissal during their Senior year:

- have the required 2.5 overall GPA
- have passed or met all MAAP assessments (state test) requirements for graduation
- be on track to meet diploma requirements (passing all required classes)
- be concurrently enrolled in Essentials for College Math and/or Essentials for College Literacy



Northwest Rankin High School

Home of the Cougars

Rankin County School District EARLY GRADUATION Requirements

A diploma endorsement (CTE, Academic, or Distinguished) is required for all early graduates.

Exceptions to this policy may be granted due to extreme hardship situations and must have the prior approval of the District Superintendent or designee.



Northwest Rankin High School

Home of the Cougars

IHL Requirements and Recommendations

[Click Here](#) for MS 4 year public university admission required & recommended courses

“Required” courses are required for the *academic* endorsement option

“Recommended” courses are required for the *distinguished* endorsement option

- IHL = Institutions of Higher Learning (Mississippi 4 year public universities)
- CPC= College Preparatory Curriculum



Northwest Rankin High School
Home of the Cougars

Additional Resources, Information & Questions

Additional Resources:

[MDE New Diploma Options Resources](#)

[MSU RCU additional new diploma resources & planning tools](#)

[MS Institutions of Higher Learning \(IHL\)](#)

Additional Information:

Students can earn multiple endorsements.

Questions:

Please contact Northwest Rankin High School Counselors



Northwest Rankin High School

Home of the Cougars

