

NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR GRADUATING CLASSES 2020, 2021 AND 2022

- I. To graduate from Northwestern Regional High School a students in the Sophomore, Junior, or Senior class (as of the 2019-2020 school year) must earn a minimum of twenty-three (23) credits and meet the district's the high school's credit distribution requirements outlined below:

<u>CLUSTERS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF CREDITS</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
<u>STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)</u>		
Mathematics	3.0	3.0
Science (One credit must be in Biology)	3.0	3.0
<u>HUMANITIES</u>		
English	4.0	4.0
Social Studies (One credit must be in U.S. History and ½ credit in Civics)	3.0	3.0
<u>CAREER AND LIFE SKILLS</u>		
Physical Education	1.0	1.0
Health Education	1.0	1.0
Arts/Vocational (Includes Art, Music, Culinary, Tech. Ed., Business)	2.0	2.0
<u>OPEN ELECTIVES</u>	6.0	
TOTAL CREDITS	23.0	

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BEGINNING WITH THE INCOMING CLASS OF 2019-2020
Graduating Class of 2023

<u>CLUSTERS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF CREDITS</u>
<u>STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)</u>	
Mathematics	3.0
Science (One credit must be in Biology)	3.0
Electives	<u>3.0</u>
Total STEM	9.0
<u>HUMANITIES (English, Art, Social Studies, Music, World Lang.)</u>	
English	4.0
Social Studies (One credit must be in U.S. History and ½ credit in Civics)	3.0
Electives	<u>2.0</u>
Total HUMANITIES	9.0
<u>WORLD LANGUAGE</u>	1.0
<u>PHYSICAL EDUCATION/WELLNESS/AND SAFETY</u>	2.0
<u>MASTERY-BASED DIPLOMA ASSESSMENT</u> (CAPSTONE PROJECT)	1.0
<u>OPEN ELECTIVES</u>	3.0
TOTAL	25.0

EXEMPTIONS, MODIFICATIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

1. If a physician certifies in writing that the physical education requirement is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of the student, this requirement may be fulfilled by an elective.
2. One credit may be earned in Accounting I, Accounting II and Personal Finance toward fulfilling the credits required in mathematics for graduation.

Adopted 03/09/88; Revised/Approved 01/13/98;
 Revised /Approved 10/9/01; Revised/Approved 5/14/02;
 Revised/Approved 10/12/04; Reviewed/Revised/Renumbered/
 Approved 7/20/2012; Revised/Approved 12/12/12
 Revised/Approved 10/9/19

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3. One credit may be earned towards fulfilling the Social Studies graduation requirement by completing the following courses: Economics, Business Law, UConn Microeconomics, and UConn Macroeconomics.
4. Students who successfully complete one year of Agriculture Education may apply this credit toward meeting the STEM requirement for graduation.
5. Agriculture Education students who successfully complete specific courses aligned with courses offered by the Science Department in Agriculture Education will receive STEM credit. These courses are: Introduction to Veterinary Science, Production Animal Science, Equine Science, UConn ECE Equine Science, Natural Resource Management, UConn Field Ecology, Fisheries and Aquaculture, and UConn Fundamentals of Agriculture.
6. The credit earned in the Law and Justice course or AP US Government and Politics course may be applied toward fulfilling the Civics requirement.
7. Beginning with the incoming class of 2019, graduating class of 2023, students in grade 9 should take a minimum of 6.0-6.5 credits including English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Physical Education, Health and an elective.
8. In grade 10 a student should take a minimum of 6.0 credits in English, Mathematics, Biology, Social Studies including Civics, Physical Education, Health and courses in one or more elective disciplines.
9. In grade eleven a student should take a minimum of 6.0-6.5 crediting including English, Mathematics, U.S. History, Physical Education, Health and courses in one or more elective disciplines.
10. In grade twelve a student must take a minimum of 6.0 credits including English, Physical Education and Health and complete all requirements for graduation. Seniors must carry at least 3 credits in academic core courses. Colleges are looking for students to pursue a rigorous course in their senior year, therefore we encourage a solid senior schedule.
11. Sequential courses in all subject areas require the student to pass the first course in the sequence before he or she may take the next course. For instance, grade ten English may not be taken until grade nine English has been passed.

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12. One credit will be awarded for the successful completion of a full year of a World Language in the Middle School. This credit will count towards the graduation requirements and will display on the high school transcript; however, it is not included in the GPA calculation. Students who earn a grade of a C- or higher are eligible to move to the next level of World Language in high school. Students who earn a passing grade lower than a C- will earn credit which will display with a P grade on the transcript and they may take the course again in high school, if desired.
13. One credit will be awarded for the successful completion of Algebra I at the middle school provided the student earns a grade of C- or better. This credit will count towards the graduation requirements and will display on the high school transcript; however, it is not included in the GPA calculation.
14. Upon prior approval of the Principal, credits earned from an accredited post-secondary institution may be counted towards the credits required to earn a diploma. A typical college course is worth 3 credits; however, by statute, a high school is allowed to award one half credit for successfully completing a course approved by the principal. These credits will not however be included in the accumulated GPA.

MULTIPLE PATHWAYS FOR LEARNING

Northwestern Regional High School is committed to providing extended opportunities for students to expand their education through access to approved programs not offered as part of our own curriculum. These offerings may include participation in the High School Partnership Program with Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Bristol Technical Education Center, and possible work/study opportunities.

Students who participate in the High School Partnership Program courses earn college credits through this from NWCC that are transferable to most Connecticut colleges and many out of state colleges. Further through both of these programs students can earn college credits at no cost. Additional offerings may become available as they are approved.

As part of the High School Partnership Program, tuition and fees at Northwestern Connecticut Community College are waived for qualified juniors and seniors wishing to enroll in community college courses during the school year. Students must have demonstrated sufficient scholastic ability to handle college level work (a B average or better). High school students wishing to enroll in community college courses must make arrangements through their high school counselor.

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Enrollment is contingent upon available space. (*Students may be required to achieve acceptable scores on the Accuplacer test, or provide SAT scores to qualify for enrollment.*)

In addition to the college credit earned through the successful completion of NCCC courses, a student may apply the course(s) toward the high school graduation requirements upon meeting the following conditions:

1. The desired course is not offered at Northwestern Regional or the student cannot fit the desired course into his/her schedule prior to graduation from Northwestern Regional.
2. Approval of the Principal is required.
3. The student's Grade does not factor into GPA.

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs) are provided to provide multiple pathways for learning beyond the classroom. Extended Learning Opportunities require at least 120 hours of learning for one credit and 60 hours of learning for a half credit. These hours are based on CT State Statute 10-221a of the general statutes, Senate Bill 1059. In addition to meeting the minimum number of hours of class time students are required to demonstrate mastery of content and skills as evidence of the learning activities that the student participated in while pursuing an ELO. In order to receive credit for an Extended Learning Opportunity students must complete an application form describing the learning experience. Once the student has formally applied for an ELO, a committee comprised of the school principal, Housemaster and student's school counselor will meet to determine whether or not the learning experience planned by the student meets the requirements of an ELO.

Once the student has completed the ELO, credit may be granted by the Principal after a committee composed of the Principal, the student's Housemaster and School Counselor, meets to review the student's work and have affirmed that the student has met the minimum number of hours of work and confirmed that the student has demonstrated mastery of content or learning objectives in area(s) that they focused on during the ELO.

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PROGRESSION TOWARDS GRADUATION

Successful progression to each grade will be determined by the number of credits earned. Acquisition of these minimum number of credits each year will ensure that the student is on track to graduate with their class.

- progression to grade 10 will require 6.0-6.5 credits
- progression to grade 11 will require 13 credits
- progression to grade 12 will require 19 credits

TRANSFER STUDENTS

A student who transfers into Northwestern Regional High School must meet the school's graduation requirements and earn at least three (3) credits of work at Northwestern Regional High School to be eligible to graduate with a NWR7 High School diploma. Only course work completed at Northwestern Regional High School is calculated into the student's GPA. Course work completed in other secondary schools will be included in the student's permanent record as copies of that school's transcript. These courses will be displayed on the Northwestern transcript for college application purposes even though they are not factored in to the GPA. Students who transfer after the 1st semester of their freshmen year are excluded from class rank.

DIPLOMA FOR VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II, THE KOREN CONFLICT
AND VIETNAM ERA

In accordance with state law, the Board of Education may award a high school diploma to veterans of World War II, the Korean hostilities or the Vietnam Era who left high school to serve in the armed forces and did not receive a diploma during their service or any person who withdrew from high school prior to graduation to work in a job that assisted the war effort during World War II.

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OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students who do not meet all graduation requirements will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. A diploma will be held for the student until all graduation requirements are completed.

Seniors who are not eligible for graduation with their class due to a failure to meet the district graduation requirements, as per policy, in one or more subjects as described above, may select one of the following options:

- Attend summer school to raise a grade to meet course work requirements, including completion of the Capstone Project.
- If a student is credit deficit, it may be possible depending on the specific situation, for a student to attend the Credit Enhancement Program (if the program is offered during that year) during the summer to earn the credits required to graduate in the same graduation year as the student's cohort. All credits must be earned before September 1st in the same graduation year as the student's graduating cohort.

EARNING A DIPLOMA DURING A PERIOD OF EXPULSION

The Board may permit a student to earn a diploma during a period of expulsion pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 10-233d if the Board determines that the student has satisfactorily completes the necessary credits for graduation.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes 10-221a
Connecticut General Statutes 10-223d
Senate Bill 1059

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