

Graduation Requirements: Class of 2016 (current 9th grade)

- *Used to be Class of 2014*
- Course Completion and Grades (Souderton)
- Graduation Project:
 - Students apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information, and communicate important knowledge and understanding.
- Proficiency in:
 - English Language Arts (Literature Keystone)
 - Math (Algebra I Keystone)

Graduation Requirements: Class of 2017 (current 8th grade)

- Course Completion and Grades (Souderton)
- Graduation Project
- Proficiency in:
 - English Language Arts (Literature Keystone)
 - Math (Algebra I Keystone)
 - Science & Technology and Environment & Ecology (Biology Keystone)

Graduation Requirements: Class of 2019 (current 6th grade)

- Add Proficiency in English Composition
 - First administered in 2015-16 (when in 9th grade)

Graduation Requirements: Class of 2020 (current 5th grade)

- Add Proficiency in Civics & Government
 - First administered in 2016-17 (when in 9th grade)

What Keystones are NOT

- 1/3 of the class grade

What Keystones Are

- Stand-alone graduation requirements, just like PSSA Reading, Writing, and Math have been

Commonwealth's Rationale

- “High stakes” testing can be a “potent policy in terms of bringing about real positive changes in student learning.”
- Remain competitive with other states
 - As of 2010-11, 25 states required passing of high stakes exams to graduate.

2012-13

- All 11th grade students will take the 3 Keystones
 - Biology (January 9, 2013)
 - Literature (January 11, 2013)
 - Algebra I (January 14, 2013)
- 140-minute test; 2 modules
- Literature and Algebra I are **graduation requirements AND** count for **AYP**

2012-13

- 10th grade students:
 - Have English S1, take Literature Keystone in January
 - Have math S1, take Algebra I Keystone in January
 - Have Biology S1, take Biology Keystone in January
 - Have courses S2, take Keystones in May
- Literature and Algebra I are **graduation requirements AND** count for **AYP**

2012-13

- 9th grade students:
 - Have math S1, take Algebra I Keystone in January
 - Have Biology S1, take Biology Keystone in January
 - Have courses S2, take Keystones in May
- Literature and Algebra I are **graduation requirements AND** count for **AYP**

2012-13

- 9th and 10th grade students:
 - Algebra IB and English 10 – no final
 - Biology and other math - final

2012-13

- 7th & 8th grade students:
 - If have Algebra I or Geometry, take Algebra I Keystone in May

2012-13

Already proficient on Algebra I Keystone
(some 9th and 10th graders)?

- Score banked; don't need to take again

Review

- For Algebra I:
 - In current math class
 - During 5th Block in November/December

Not Proficient?

- Get extra instruction
 - 5th Block
 - Summer School (potentially)
- Re-take

Common Core State Standards

- Full implementation of the PA Common Core State Standards by July 1, 2013