

Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 Prior to 2021

Subject	Required Credits	Required Courses
English	4	-English 9 -English 10 -English 11 or AP Language and Composition -English 12 or AP Literature and Composition or AP Seminar or AP Research*
Social Studies	3	-Government or AP United States Government and Politics -United States History or AP United States History -World History or AP World History
Science	3	-Conceptual Physics -Chemistry I -Biology
Mathematics	3 All students shall enroll in a mathematics course each year of high school.	-Algebra I -Geometry Other credits must be 1 credit in duration and may be selected from the Program of Studies Mathematics course offerings.
Physical Education	1	-Physical Education I (½ credit)
Health	½	-Health I
Fine Arts	1	-Completed credit in any Fine Arts course may be applied to the Fine Arts graduation requirements unless otherwise indicated.
Technology Education	1	-Foundations of Technology, Exploring Computer Science, Principles of Engineering (part of Project Lead the Way completer program), or AP Computer Science Principles
Graduation Pathway:		
• World Language	2	-Two credits of the same World Language
• Or American Sign Language	2	-Sign Language I, II, III
• Or Advanced Technology	2	-See Technology Courses
• Or State Approved Career and Technical Education Completer Program	3-9	-See Completer Programs
Financial Literacy	½	-Financial Literacy or -Managing Personal Finances Using Excel (1 credit)
Electives	6-12	
Total Credits Required	25	

NOTE: This chart will be subject to change pending any State action on graduation requirements.

*Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar *and* AP Research receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Students who *also* earn scores of 3 or higher on four additional AP exams at any time in high school receive the AP Capstone Diploma™.

Credit will be awarded for high school courses completed successfully in middle school.

Additional Requirements

- Four years of approved study beyond grade 8.
- Four credits must be earned after the completion of grade 11.
- State-mandated 75 hours of service-learning may be met by completing the course –related option and/or the exemplary service option. (see Service-Learning Program guidelines)
- Students must meet the High School Assessment requirements for Algebra I, English 10, Biology (Life Science MISA), and Government. Testing requirements and passing scores vary based on the year of course completion. Details related to each content area are provided below.
- All students shall be assessed no later than grade 11 to determine if the student meets the Maryland State Department of Education criteria for College and Career Readiness in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

- Transition courses or other instructional opportunities will be delivered in grade 12 to students who have not achieved College and Career Readiness by the end of grade 11.

High School Assessment Requirements

Algebra I

- Students taking Algebra I during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years will be required to participate in the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for Algebra I (MCAP) to meet the graduation requirement. Beginning with the 2022—2023 school year, a student will take the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for Algebra I as an end-of-course assessment in Algebra I, accounting for twenty percent of the student’s final grade.

English 10

- Students taking English 10 during the 2021-2022 school year will be required to participate in the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for English (MCAP) to meet the graduation requirement. Beginning with the 2022—2023 school year, a student will take the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for English as an end-of-course assessment in English 10 accounting for twenty percent of the student’s final grade.

Biology

- Students taking Biology during the 2020-2021 school year will be required to participate in the last administration of the High School Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (HS-MISA) to meet the graduation requirement. Students taking Biology during the 2021-2022 school year will be required to participate in the new Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for science (Life Science MISA) to meet the graduation requirement. Beginning with the 2022—2023 school year, a student will take the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for science as an end-of-course assessment in Biology accounting for twenty percent of the student’s final grade.

Government

- Students taking Government during the 2021-2022 school year will be required to participate in the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for government (Government MCAP) to meet the graduation requirement. Beginning with the 2022—2023 school year, a student will take the Maryland [High School] Comprehensive Assessment for government as an end-of-course assessment in Government accounting for twenty percent of the student’s final grade.

Combined Score Option

- Students can meet the MCAP/MISA requirements through a combined score passing option set by MSDE. The combined score total needed to pass varies based on the year in which the assessment is taken. See your school counselor for details.