

St. Mary's County Public Schools HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PATHWAYS



Choose your path to success!



CORE REQUIREMENTS

Students are encouraged to earn more than the minimum units of credit for graduation. Most students will graduate with more than 26 units of credit. Units of credit are earned at the end of the year with a passing grade. A unit of credit is based on all four marking periods for a year-long course.

Subjects	University Sequence	CTE
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Science	3	3
Social Studies	3	3
Fine Arts	1	1
PE/Health	1.5	1.5
Technology Education	1	1
World Language	2	
CTE		4
Elective	2	1

For more information about course requirements, visit: www.smcps.org/dci/program-of-studies

PROGRAM COMPLETION

To receive a high school diploma in St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS), students must select and enroll in a course of study for a program pathway. All students must complete the Maryland core requirements. Students must also select a University Sequence or a Career and Technology Education Completer Sequence. All students are highly encouraged to take advantage of all that SMCPS offers and to be a Dual Completer, meeting the requirements of both sequences.

UNIVERSITY COMPLETER

- Complete core credits
- Complete 4 credits in Mathematics to include Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 (non-trivial Algebra minimum in senior year)
- Complete 2 credits in the same World Language

CTE COMPLETER

- Complete the core credits
- Complete 4 credits in an approved Career and Technology Program Sequence

DUAL COMPLETER

- Complete the core credits
- Complete 4 credits in an approved Career and Technology Program Sequence
- Meet all the requirements of the University Sequence

YOUR PATH, YOUR FUTURE

As students make decisions about which courses to take in high school, they can enroll in a variety of courses that match their interests and career goals. These choices offer the opportunity to explore different subjects, or to dig deeper into a program that prepares them for college and the world of work

Electives may include:

- World Languages
 - Spanish, French, and more!
- Physical Education/Health
- Fine Arts
 - band, chorus, theatre, visual arts, and more!
- Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs
 - computer science, technology, JROTC, and more!

Students may take PE/Health, Fine Arts, or Technology credits their 9th grade year. However, electives may be taken any year of high school.

Additionally, there are specialized classes for students with an Individualized Education Plan or students who are in need of ESOL courses.

Academy Programs have specific course requirements for each grade that are mandated by the Academy. If accepted into an Academy, specific course and schedule requirements will be provided.

CTE & FORREST TECH CENTER

St. Mary's County Public Schools' Career and Technology Education programs are designed to provide students with 21st Century Skills in preparation for the workplace and/or a seamless transition to a post-secondary education experience. The goal is to offer programs that blend academic and technical skills with employability skills. CTE courses are logical, challenging, and aligned to standards recognized by both industry and college readiness. Students enrolled in CTE courses are exposed to a wide range of current and emerging technologies, workbased learning opportunities, and extended classroom experiences that bring each class to life.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Dual Enrollment courses allow you to earn college credit while in high school. Dual Enrollment courses include: Calculus, Human Anatomy, and College Prep English. In addition, over 25 courses at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center have articulated credit agreements with several colleges and institutes of higher education.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are rigorous, college level courses. We encourage all students to take at least one AP course in their high school course of study. In the late spring, students in AP courses can take the AP exam given by the College Board with an opportunity to earn college credit.



ACADEMIES

ACADEMY OF FINANCE

This academy provides students an opportunity to develop professional skills, receive specialized instruction in business finance and management, and gain an awareness of the marketable skills needed to be successful in the field.

ACADEMY OF VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

This academy meets the needs of our highly abled arts-inspired youth who exhibit desire and motivation to pursue higher levels of achievement and learning in the Arts. Students participating in the AVPA will have a choice of one of three areas of focus: music, theatre, or visual arts.

For more information about the academy programs, visit: www.smcps.org/academies

GLOBAL & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

This academy provides a rigorous, engaging education where students study specific curriculum related to world cultures, current affairs, history, literature, and languages. Students learn within a trans-disciplinary instructional model to allow regrouping and extension of lessons.

STEM

Within the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) program, there is an emphasis on critical and creative thinking in all academic coursework as well as an interdisciplinary approach to curriculum. Students are exposed to the most contemporary technologies to develop their scientific inquiry skills, mathematical calculation abilities, and problem-solving techniques. Reading and technical writing skills are developed and refined, and a focus on both verbal and visual communication abilities exists within the program.

WHAT NOW?

Talk with your school counselor about the best path for you based on your goals, your interests, and your aspirations.

As you plan your path, think about how you can learn something new, how you can grow, and what will prepare you for your future beyond high school.

**CHOOSE YOUR PATH.
CREATE YOUR FUTURE!**

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies	Elective**
Science	Science	Science	Elective**
Elective*	Elective**	Elective**	Elective**
Elective*	Elective**	Elective**	Elective**
Elective*	Elective**	Elective**	Elective**

*Choose one: PE/Health, Technology Credit, Fine Arts, World Language
 **Beyond graduation requirements, electives may include: CTE, Forrest Center Programs, and additional AP and Dual Enrollment opportunities.

CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL



CHOPTICON

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GREAT MILLS

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 Fax Number: 301-863-4006
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LEONARDTOWN

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