

FAQ'S

COURSE REQUEST PROCESS, CREDITS AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

COURSE REQUEST PROCESS

Do my requests get priority if I get them in early?

No, it is best to take your time and make informed decisions. Each grade level is loaded into courses at the same time, giving Seniors the priority. Please take your time and choose wisely.

What if I am new to LHS or I have forgotten how to use Skyward to request my courses?

There are step by step directions available on the LHS Counseling website and you can also ask your Counselor for help. The information is available here:

<https://sites.google.com/view/lhs-counseling/course-request-process>

Can I get ahead over the summer?

ISD offers an online option for students to advance during the summer. However, this option does not allow students to complete a full 1.0 credit of any course. Students may complete the first semester of a course over the summer and will need to complete the second semester during the fall of the following school year. Online options and information about summer school will be available on the ISD website (not LHS) in early to mid-March.

Will I get all of the classes that I request?

Not always. With 7 periods to fill and so many students, it is very difficult to give each student 100% of their requested courses. This is why it is VERY important to choose alternates!

What if I do not fill out my alternate choices?

If you do not choose alternate courses, a random course may be chosen for you. It is best to choose at least 4 alternate semester courses in case your first selections are not available.

What if I forget to fill out my course requests?

If you do not request courses for next year, your Counselor will choose courses for you. There just isn't time to contact each student individually.

CREDITS

Do I need 3 semesters of PE if I play a school sport?

All freshman are required to take PE 9 or ROTC. If you participate in a school sport, each season you complete will waive 0.25 credit for a total of 1.0 credit (two

semesters). You do not receive *credit* for the sport played, but instead the 1.0 PE credit is *waived* and becomes 1.0 elective credit (may be fulfilled by any class). Please be aware that if you are short PE credits coming into your Senior year, your Counselor will add a PE course to your schedule to ensure you meet graduation requirements!

Will high school classes such as Algebra 1, Geometry, Spanish and Biology automatically be placed onto my high school transcript?

Yes. If you want to remove these courses, please talk to your Counselor. Once a course is removed, it cannot be added back onto your transcript, so we suggest waiting until your Junior year before making this decision.

What if I took a high school course during middle school and I'm not happy with my grade? Is it okay to re-take this course in 9th grade?

Yes! You may repeat any high school course taken during middle school when you get to high school. We actually recommend that if your final grades were below B-, that you consider re-taking the courses.

Do I need to take World Language?

Students do not need World Language credit to graduate from Liberty High School. World Language credits are required for college entrance. Students who wish to attend a 4-year University after graduation will need to take at least 2.0 consecutive credits of the same language. For example, Spanish 1 and 2 or Japanese 1 and 2.

My graduation requirements in Skyward are not correctly reflecting the courses I have taken. Who can help me with this?

You should contact your Counselor for help with this!

Can I get ahead in Math?

You must complete Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2 (or a 3rd credit of Math aligned with your post HS plan) to meet state Math requirements and to meet minimum 4-year college entrance requirements. Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 are important foundation subjects in math. Content from all three classes is assessed on the Smarter Balanced Math test, the state assessment pathway for graduation, and on the SAT and ACT college entrance exams.

We suggest speaking with your current math teacher about accelerating in math.

Does a Computer Science class count as Math credit?

If you want to know how a specific course counts in your graduation requirements, you can always refer to the online course guide. It lists every class, which credits are fulfilled by the class, learning recommendations, and a detailed description – all at your fingertips! To answer the question, this information was pulled directly from the LHS course guide: Advanced Placement Computer Science is equivalent to high school mathematics, *if* the student is currently enrolled in [MTH300 - Common Core Algebra 2](#),

or successfully completed [MTH300 - Common Core Algebra 2](#). This course qualifies for a math-based quantitative course for students who take the course in their senior year. Advanced Placement Computer Science qualifies for equivalency in either mathematics credit or a science credit.

I speak another language at home. Is there a test that I can take to receive credit on my transcript?

Yes. If you read, write, speak and understand another language, LHS offers the World Language Competency Exam once each school year for students to earn high school credits. There is a fee to take the exam. More information is available here:

<https://www.isd411.org/about-us/regulations/2000-series/2409/2409p>

What is the purpose of credits?

Credits are earned each semester a student passes a course. There is a minimum number of credits required for each subject area, as well as a minimum number of required total credits earned that must be met to graduate from high school. If you do not know how many credits you need to graduate, this information is available on the LHS Counseling website, in your Student Canvas Commons under School Counseling, and you can also always just ask your Counselor!

GRADUATION MILESTONES

How do I know if I have completed the Washington State History milestone?

Issaquah School District students satisfy this milestone by studying state history as part of their 7th grade Social Studies curriculum. The third trimester of 7th grade SS completes this requirement. Students who move here after 7th grade may take a NW Studies course during their Senior year of high school to meet this requirement. If you completed a state history course in another school district, this may count to meet the Northwest Studies requirement. Contact your previous school's registrar to request a transcript and a brief letter clarifying the specific course completed that includes their state history requirement, and submit these materials to your counselor.

COURSES

What if I have a question about taking an online class?

You must see your Counselor to get started on this before June. There is information about online classes available on the ISD website (not LHS) under Programs and Services/Middle and High School Programs. Students choosing to take an online class will have an assigned period at the beginning or end of the school day to work on the online class. Students should not be on campus during the online class period.

How do I find out more about the courses offered at LHS?

Visit the online Course Guide available on the LHS Counseling website and in Student Canvas. The Course Guide lists every class offered with detailed descriptions including Learning Recommendations.

Why do I have to take Health in 10th grade?

Health is a required course and all students should plan to take it during Sophomore year unless there are extenuating circumstances. Students are expected to earn their CPR/AED certification and contribute to mature discussions within the FLASH unit.

Which Math class should I take?

Math classes must be taken in sequence and all students must pass Algebra 1, Geometry, and a 3rd credit of Math to meet graduation requirements. Ask your current Math teacher for recommendations and consult the online Course Guide available on the LHS Counseling website.

What if I need extra help in Math?

If you need extra support in Math, you should also choose the Math Lab class along with your Math selection. The Lab classes provide a smaller learning environment with additional instruction and practice. (Example: Algebra 1 *and* Algebra 1 Lab)

Can I take two Math classes?

It is possible for some students. You must be a very strong math student and be prepared for added responsibilities and homework. We do NOT recommend doubling up in Math for most students. Please talk with your current Math teacher and then talk with your Counselor so your schedule is created accordingly.

What if I have questions about my core class choices (such as taking on-level World History or AP Human Geography)?

Please ask for a recommendation from your current teacher in that subject area and consult the online Course Guide available on the LHS Counseling website for more information about each course.

If I want to take AP courses as a Junior or Senior, do I have to take Honors courses as a Freshman or Sophomore?

No. You may choose to take an AP course at any time, as long as you have met the Learning Recommendations listed in the online Course Guide. Please always refer to the Course Guide when choosing advanced classes.