

SECTION: STUDENTS

TITLE: HIGH SCHOOL PROMOTION AND GRADUATION

<p>1. Authority</p>	<p>The Board has established this policy to specify the Wilson Area High School promotion and graduation requirements. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the alternative instructional model, several adjustments are made to this policy for the 2020-2021 school year.</p>
<p>2. Guidelines</p>	<p><u>Minimum Coursework Requirements by Grade</u></p> <p>Students are required to schedule six credits of coursework each year at minimum, and to pass five credits of coursework in order to advance to the next level. For the 2020-2021 school year, students are required to pass one credit of core coursework in order to advance to the next level. A total of 22.5 credits must be earned in order for a student to graduate.</p> <p>Grade 9 – 5 credits Grade 10 – 5 credits Grade 11 – 5 credits Grade 12 – 5 credits Extra credits to be taken any time grade 9-12 – 2.5 credits Total required for graduation – 22.5 credits</p> <p>Students are required to schedule a minimum of six credits per year. Seniors will be required to pass a minimum of 4 full credit courses in the senior year regardless of their cumulative total to be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies. The passing of 4 full credit courses to participate in graduation ceremonies will be waived for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p><u>Minimum Program Requirements</u></p> <p>1. The minimum high school program shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English – 4 units of credit ● Social Studies – 3 units of credit ● Science – 4 units of credit (to include Biology and three other science courses) ● Mathematics – 4 units of credit (to include Algebra 1) Algebra 1 completed at the Intermediate School fulfills this requirement but does not count as a graduation credit. ● Arts or Humanities – 2 units of credit

- Health and Physical Education – 1.4 units of credit, beginning with the class of 2022 – 1.5 units of credit
- Electives – 4.1 units of credit, beginning with the class of 2025 – 4.0 units of credit

Total credits required for graduation

- Class of 2021 18.4 credits (0 elective credits required)
- Class of 2022 19.0 credits (0.5 elective credits required)
- Class of 2023 20.0 credits (1.5 elective credits required)
- Class of 2024 21.5 credits (3.0 elective credits required)
- Class of 2025 22.5 credits

PA Core Standards and PA Academic Standards – Students must demonstrate proficiency in the PA Core Standards and PA Academic Standards. The Keystone Exam will be used to determine the level of proficiency. Students must demonstrate proficiency in Algebra 1, Biology, and Literature Keystone Exams or District-approved alternative.

2. Beginning with the graduating class of 2022, students can meet the proficiency requirements through one of the following options:
 - Keystone Proficiency Pathway: Scoring proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam - Algebra I, Literature and Biology
 - Keystone Composite Pathway: Earning a satisfactory composite score on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams

Students who do not meet one of the above Pathways can meet the Pennsylvania statewide graduation requirements through an alternative pathway. The student will meet with a High School principal to develop an individualized graduation plan through one of the additional statewide options; Alternative Assessment Pathway, Evidence Based Pathway, or Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway.

3. A unit of credit for graduation purposes shall consist of a planned course of 120 hours of instruction. Courses of less than 120 hours will be awarded fractional credit: courses of more than 120 hours of instruction will be awarded fractionally more than 1 credit. No course may be counted more than once to meet graduation requirements.

All full year classes that meet a minimum of 5 times per week will receive one full credit. Additional credit is offered as follows:

- Full year classes that meet 6 times/week – 1.2 credits
- Full year classes that meet 7 times/week – 1.4 credits

4. Arts and humanities credits may be earned in art, industrial arts, home economics, music, band, chorus, foreign languages, and additional courses in English and social studies.
5. Credits for electives may be earned in art, industrial arts, home economics, music, band, chorus, foreign languages, business education, computer courses, and vocational-technical education. The completion of a full year's course at the vocational-technical school shall count as 3 credits toward graduation.
6. Computer courses do not count toward the credit requirements for science or mathematics.
7. Students participating in off campus classes, which are not part of the Wilson Area High School curricular offerings, shall take the courses for personal enrichment, college credit, or curriculum diversification. Such courses would not have grades included in the cumulative GPA. Supplanting a Wilson Area High School curricular graduation requirement could be approved if the option meets or exceeds the rigors of the high school curricular requirements. Such approved courses would have grades incorporated into the student cumulative GPA. An approved off-campus course, such as an approved college academic course, would receive equal treatment to a Wilson Area High School weighted course. Approved courses would equate as follows:
 - one semester approved college course – .5 High School credit
 - two semesters approved college course – 1.0 High School credit
8. The minimum standard for passing a course for the year is to establish a final average of 60% or greater. For the 2020-2021 school year only, the minimum standard for passing a course for the year is to establish a final average of 50% or greater. Grades on a report card reflect that each marking period grade equals 20% of the final average, while the midterm and final exam equate to the final 20%. Courses with no final exams are averaged with only four grades, each equal to 25% of the final average.
9. Students must obtain a minimum of (1) 5 credits to be promoted to grade 10; (2) 10 credits to be promoted to grade 11; and (3) 15 credits to be promoted to grade 12. This requirement will be waived for the 2020-2021 school year. A student who has not met promotion requirements and is retained as a senior shall not be afforded the opportunity to participate in trips or other activities beyond the initial year in senior homeroom. Students will be able to regain class privileges if evidence at the end of the first semester indicates that the credit deficiency is being eliminated. The change in status will take

place only after administrative review.

10. Students who do not earn the minimum graduation requirements are ineligible to participate in the graduation ceremonies. Such students will be awarded their diplomas upon completion of the necessary requirements and will be given the option of participating in a subsequent commencement exercise.

Transfer students will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as to their eligibility for participation in graduation ceremonies.

11. For the 2020-2021 school year, seniors failing a required core course can complete the credit recovery course during the 4th marking period to earn the course credit.