

## SC DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Earning a South Carolina High School Diploma (Grades 9-12)

The student must earn a total of twenty-four (24) units of credit as follows:

Graduation Requirements for SC High School Diploma		Prerequisites for Direct Enrollment in a SC 4-Year College or University	
Students and parents must ensure that courses selected each year allow students to earn the following <u>minimum</u> credits for a SC Diploma:		Students who plan to enter a 4-year college immediately after graduation should check the school's specific entrance requirements. These will fulfill requirements for SC public colleges and universities:	
Subject	Units Required	Subject	Units Required
English/Language Arts	4 credits	English/Language Arts	4 credits
Mathematics*	4 credits	Mathematics*	4 credits (Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, plus one higher level math)
Science	3 credits	Science	3 credits (2 units from 2 different fields selected from biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics. The third unit must come from same fields or any lab science that requires biology or chemistry as a prerequisite)
U.S. History & Constitution	1 credit	Social Science	3 credits (1 unit of US History is required, government and economics are strongly recommended)
Economics	.5 credit		
U.S. Government	.5 credit		
Other Social Studies	1 credit		
Physical Education or JROTC	1 credit	PE or JROTC	1 credit
World Language or Career and Technology Education	1 credit	World Language	2 credits in the same foreign language (some colleges may require 3 credits)
		Fine Arts	1 credit
Computer Science	1 credit	Electives	At least 1 unit (a college preparatory course in computer science is strongly recommended; other electives may include additional English, math, science, social science, world language, or fine arts classes)
Electives	7 credits		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24 credits</b>		
		Students planning to go to a 4-year college or university should take the American College Testing Assessment (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). These test scores are used as one indicator of a student's potential to do college work.	

**\*Note about Algebra:** Students **must not** enroll in Foundations in Algebra (4116) prior to ninth grade. A school that offers Foundations in Algebra (4116) **must** subsequently offer Intermediate Algebra (4117). Students who successfully complete Foundations in Algebra (4116) **must** subsequently enroll in Intermediate Algebra (4117). Upon completion of this two-course sequence, students **must** take the state-mandated Algebra 1 End-of-Course assessment (Algebra 1 EOCEP) administered at the completion of the second course, Intermediate Algebra (4117). Students **may not** receive mathematics credits for both Foundations in Algebra (4116) and Algebra 1 (4114). In that case, **one course** will receive mathematics credit; the other will receive elective credit. Students who have a final average of D in Algebra 1 (4114) **may** subsequently enroll in Intermediate Algebra (4117). Students who complete Intermediate Algebra (4117) after Algebra 1 (4114) **must** re-take the state-mandated Algebra 1 End-of-Course assessment (Algebra 1 EOCEP) administered at the completion of Intermediate Algebra (4117). In that case, one course counts as mathematics graduation credit and the other is an elective credit.