

In order to satisfy the high school graduation requirements within Manchester Public Schools, a student must have satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study, demonstrated proficiency in basic skills identified by the Manchester Board of Education and satisfied the legally mandated number and distribution of credits required to graduate from high school.

Required Coursework and Credits for Graduation

The Manchester Board of Education conforms with state law regarding credits for graduation from high school.

Current Requirements

Effective with the Class of 2020, 24 credits are required for graduation.

This must include a minimum of the following core requirements:

- 8.0 credits in Humanities including not fewer than:
 - 4.0 credits in English
 - 4.0 credits in Social Studies including 1 credit in US History; and at least .5 credit in Civics and a .5 credit in Human Rights
- 6.0 credits in Science and Mathematics including not fewer than:
 - 3.0 credits in Math, including Algebra 1, Geometry, and either Algebra II or Probability and Statistics
 - 3.0 credits in Science, including at least 1 credit in life science and at least 1 credit in physical science
- 1.75 credits in Health & Wellness to include
 - 1.0 Physical Education and .75 Health
- 1.0 credit in World Language
- 7.25 additional credits to include:
 - 1.0 credits in Fine Arts or Vocational Education
 - 0.5 credits in Personal Finance.

Classes Graduating in 2023 and Thereafter

Effective with the Class of 2020, 25 credits are required for graduation.

Humanities

9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements

At least

- 4.0 credits in ELA
- 3.0 credits in Social Studies including at least 1 credit in US History; 0.5 credits in Civics and .5 credits in Human Rights
- 1.0 credits in the arts

STEM

9.0 credits

Distribution Requirements

At least

- 3.0 credits in Mathematics including Algebra 1 and either Algebra 2, Statistics, or Data Science
- 3.0 credits in Science including at least 1 credit in life science and 1 credit in physical science
- 0.5 credits in Personal Finance

Health, Wellness, and Safety**2.0 credits***Distribution Requirements**At least*

- 1.0 credit in Physical Education and Wellness Courses, including at least .75 credits in Physical Education
- 1.0 credit in Health and Safety , including at least 0.75 credits in Health

World Language**1.0 credit****Mastery-based diploma assessment****1.0 credit****Electives****3.0 credits**

Relevant alternate experiences may be applied to meet the distribution requirements above in consultation with the principal or designee

A student who presents written documentation from a physician or advanced practice registered nurse stating that participation in physical education is not advisable because of the physical condition of the student, shall be excused from the physical education requirement. In such a case, another subject must be substituted.

Any student who is deaf or hearing impaired may be exempted from any world language graduation requirement if the student's parent or guardian requests such exemption in writing.

A credit is defined as not less than the equivalent of a forty (40) minute class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or part of a credit toward high school graduation earned (1) at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (2) through on-line coursework that is completed satisfactorily in accordance with Board policy, or (3) through a demonstration of mastery based on competency and performance standards, in accordance with guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education.

Only courses taken in grades nine to twelve inclusive, and that are in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the State Board of Education, shall satisfy the above graduation requirements, except that the Board will grant a student credit:

High school graduation credit will be granted to students upon the successful demonstration of mastery of subject matter achieved through educational experiences and opportunities that provide flexible and multiple pathways to learning, including:

- Cross-curricular graduation requirements,
- Career and technical education,
- Virtual learning,
- Work-based learning,
- Service learning,
- Dual enrollment and early college
- Courses taken in middle school, and
- Internships and student-designed independent studies;

Provided that such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with such state-wide subject matter content standards.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students for courses successfully completed with a [B] or better in grades seven and eight so long as the primary focus of the course corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement at the high school level.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students for World Language courses successfully completed with a [B] or better in grades six, seven or eight. In addition, high school graduation credit will be granted to students for World Language courses successfully completed with a [B] or better, or its equivalent, as determined by the Superintendent or

designee, through on-line coursework or upon achievement of a passing grade, as determined by the Superintendent or designee, in a course offered privately through a nonprofit provider.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students who pass a subject area proficiency examination identified and approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Education, regardless of the number of hours a student spent in a Manchester Public Schools classroom learning the subject matter.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students for coursework completed during the school year or summer months at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for purposes of this policy.

High school graduation credit will be granted to students upon the successful completion of on-line coursework in accordance with the Board's on-line coursework policy.

A student may be granted one-half credit for documented community service provided it is supervised by an administrator or teacher and consists of not less than fifty (50) hours of actual service that may be performed at times when school is not regularly in session and not less than ten (10) hours of related classroom instruction. Such community service does not include partisan political activities.

Demonstration of Proficiency in Basic Skills

In addition to meeting the coursework and credit graduation requirements listed above, to graduate high school, each student must demonstrate proficiency in the basic skills.

In addition to meeting credit distribution requirements, in order to qualify for graduation Manchester students must demonstrate completion of the district's performance standard through the any of following criteria:

- Demonstrate competency on the literacy and mathematics section of the required high school state assessment
- Passing required grade 10 or 11 Math and English classes
- Administration review of the student's body of work in literacy and mathematics
- Any other assessment method determined by the Administration

Options for Seniors If Requirements Are Not Met

A senior who is not eligible for graduation with his/her class as a result of his/her inability to meet the district performance standards is required to enroll in a program specifically designed to demonstrate proficiency. Successful completion of the program and related alternative assessments will meet the district performance standards requirement.

Graduation During Period of Expulsion

A student may graduate during an expulsion period if the Board determines that the student has completed the necessary credits required for graduation.

Promotion

Students will not be automatically promoted to the next grade. The number of credits a student has earned by the end of summer school will be used to determine his/her grade classification.

Grade 10	6 credits
Grade 11	11 credits
Grade 12	18 credits

Legal References:

Public Act No. 21-144, An Act Implementing Recommendations of the Department of Education

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-14n

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-16b

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221a

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-223a

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Health, Wellness, and Safety Menu (Draft)

0.5 Nutrition & Fitness

0.5 Culinary Electives

0.5 Human Development

0.5 Anatomy & Physiology

0.5 Psychology and the Good Life

0.5 Investigating Health Careers

1.0 CNA

0.5 Lifeguarding

0.5 Psychology

0.5 Sports Medicine

0.5 World of Children

0.25 Universal Health

0.25 World of Sports

0.25 Advanced Sports Training

0.25 Unified Sports

0.25 Advanced Team Sports

0.25 credits can be met through extended learning / enrichment options including but not limited to OSHA / Servsafe certs / CPR / First Aid / Driver's Ed / Community Based Programs that Support Student Health