

## Classification of Students

Students will advance forward in grade level based on the number of years they have been in high school. Students are no longer required to meet a minimum credit threshold to advance to the next grade level; however, students must meet all graduation requirements in order to graduate. The following chart should be used as a guide to evaluate whether a student is on track for graduation.

GRADE LEVEL	CREDIT GOAL
End of Grade 9	5.5 credits
End of Grade 10	11.5 credits
End of Grade 11	16.5 credits
End of Grade 12	23.5 credits

## Graduation Requirements

Due to action by the Kansas State Board of Education, graduation requirements will change beginning with the Class of 2028. All earlier classes will continue to operate with the previously-existing guidelines. Please see the chart below for the graduation requirements applicable to your class.

Classes of 2025-27 Requirements Incoming Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores	Content Area	Class of 2028 Requirements Incoming Freshmen
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>ELA 1 1.0 unit ELA 2 1.0 unit ELA 3 1.0 unit ELA 4 1.0 unit</p>	ELA	<p><b>3.5</b></p> <p>ELA 1 1.0 unit ELA 2 1.0 unit ELA 3 1.0 unit ELA 4 0.5 unit</p>
<p><b>0</b></p> <p>Not a graduation requirement</p>	Communications (e.g. Speech, Debate, Journalism)	<p><b>0.5</b></p> <p><i>Any <b>one</b> of the following:</i> Communications, Competitive Speech and Drama Novice Debate 21st Century Journalism</p>

<b>3</b> World Regional Studies 1.0 unit United States History 1.0 unit American Government 0.5 unit Social Studies Elective 0.5 unit	<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3</b> World Regional Studies 1.0 unit United States History 1.0 unit American Government 0.5 unit Social Studies Elective 0.5 unit
<b>1</b> <i>See the following section for a description of courses that meet this requirement.</i>	<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>1</b> <i>See the following section for a description of courses that meet this requirement.</i>
<b>3</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b> 1 unit of Biological Science and 1 unit of Physical Science  1 unit must be a laboratory science	<b>Science</b>	<b>3</b> 1 unit of Biological Science and 1 unit of Physical Science  1 unit must be a laboratory science
<b>0</b> Not a graduation requirement	<b>STEM (e.g. Advanced Math and Science, Robotics, Technology, Agriculture)</b>	<b>1</b> <i>See the following section for a description of courses that meet this requirement.</i>
<b>1</b> Physical Education 1 unit <i>(One year of Citizenship/Leadership Development NS = 0.5 credit of PE)</i>	<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>0.5</b> Physical Education 0.5 unit <i>(One year of Citizenship/Leadership Development NS = 0.5 credit of PE)</i>
<b>0.5</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>0.5</b>	<b>Financial Literacy</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>7.5</b>	<b>Electives</b>	<b>7 (tied to Individual Plan of Study)</b>
Encouraged, but not required	<b>Post Secondary Assets (skills, knowledge, and experiences outside classroom)</b>	<b>2 (not counted toward units)</b> <i>See the following section for a description of activities that meet this requirement.</i>
Strongly Encouraged	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	Strongly Encouraged
<b>23.5</b>	<b>Graduation Requirement Total</b>	<b>23.5</b>

### Fine Arts Graduation Requirement

The following is a list of courses that may be applied toward the minimum fine arts graduation requirement.

### **Visual Arts**

Credit in all visual art courses may apply toward the fine arts credit.

### **Business**

Digital Design  
Digital Design Studio  
Game Design and Development  
Web Design

### **Construction and Design**

Computer-Aided Manufacturing Design 1  
Computer-Aided Architectural Design 2, Computer-Aided Architectural Design, Computer-Aided Industrial Design, Introduction to Computer-Aided

### **Family and Consumer Science**

Apparel 1 & 2  
Commercial Baking 1 & 2  
Culinary Arts 1 & 2  
Foods, Advanced  
Foods, International

Interior Design  
Fashion, Apparel and Interior Design Essentials  
Fashion, Apparel Interior Design Studio  
Fashion Merchandising

### **Manufacturing**

Welding 1 & 2  
Wood Design and Fabrication  
Wood Design 2

### **Center for Academic Achievement**

Commercial Baking 1 & 2  
Culinary Arts 1 & 2  
Game Design and Development  
2D Animation and Motion Graphics 1 & 2  
3D Modeling and Animation 1 & 2

### **Engineering-Project Lead the Way**

Introduction to Engineering Design

### **IB Programs**

IB Dance  
IB Film Studies SL  
IB Film Studies HL

### **English Language Arts**

Actor's Studio  
Competitive Speech and Drama, Beginning and Advanced  
Introduction to Theater  
News Media - Digital Production  
Photo - Digital Production  
Repertory Theatre  
Repertory Theatre, Advanced  
Technical Theater  
Video Production 2  
Video Production, Advanced  
Yearbook - Digital Production

### **Performing Arts**

Credit in all performing arts courses may apply toward fine arts.

### **Physical Education**

Dance

## **STEM Courses**

The following is a list of courses that may be applied toward the STEM graduation requirement.

### **Visual and Performing Arts**

Music Technology  
Advanced Video Production  
Yearbook - Digital Production  
News Media - Digital Production  
Photo - Digital Production  
Web Design  
Digital Design  
Digital Photo  
Digital Design Studio  
Graphic Design-Art  
Graphic Design Project Management

### **Math (after 3rd Math Credit)**

Precalculus H  
Calculus AB/BC  
CAT (College Algebra)  
Calculus 3/Diff Equations  
AP Stats  
Introduction to Data Science

### **Science (after 3rd Science Credit)**

Chemistry  
Honors Chemistry  
AP Chemistry 2  
Earth Space

Physics 1  
Biology AP  
Physics AP 1 or 2  
Environmental Science 1 & 2  
AP Environmental Science  
Human Anatomy and Physiology  
Forensic Science 1 and 2  
Global Issues in Science 1 & 2  
Zoology

### **Computer Science**

Computer Science Principles  
Computer Science A AP  
Advanced Programming Concepts  
Cybersecurity (PLTW)

### **Signature Programs**

*Animation & Game Design Courses*  
2D Animation and Motion Graphics 1  
2D Animation and Motion Graphics 2  
3D Modeling and Animation 1  
3D Modeling and Animation 2  
Game Design and Development 1  
Game Design and Development 2

### *Health Science Courses*

Medical Health Science

Applied Medical Science  
Clinical Investigations  
Certified Nursing  
Sports Medicine Clinical Investigations

*Biotechnology*  
Biotech 1/SOP  
DNA & Proteins  
Agriculture & Pharmaceutical  
Plant & Soil Science  
Biotech Research

*Engineering (PLTW)*  
Intro to Engineering Design  
Principles of Engineering  
Civil/Architectural  
Aerospace  
Digital Electronics  
Cybersecurity  
Robotics  
Engineering Design & Development  
Adv. Concepts in CAD  
Environmental Sustainability

# College & Career Considerations

## College & Career Ready Plans of Study

The Shawnee Mission School District encourages students to take a rigorous high school curriculum in order to prepare them for college and career. Please see the [Sample Pathway Four-Year Plans](#) for several examples of course sequences. There are many possible combinations of courses. Students should make schedule decisions based on district graduation requirements, college and career plans, and personal preference.

## Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Honors (H) Grade Point Courses

Taking challenging classes in high school is a great way to build new skills. Challenging courses take students to a deeper level of study in high school and help prepare students for the level of work required in college. Honors and Advanced Placement courses are offered at all high school grade levels for students who have a strong interest in course content, a desire for greater rigor, and the motivation and commitment to accept the challenge of an advanced course.

Honors classes cover similar material as regular classes but at a faster pace and at a deeper level than regular classes.

The College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) courses offer college-level classes that help students develop and apply skills such as reading critically, solving problems analytically and writing clearly.

International Baccalaureate is a program that develops the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills needed to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalizing world. This program is offered at Shawnee Mission East and Shawnee Mission Northwest.

Honor grade points are only offered for Shawnee Mission high school courses or for transfer courses that meet the validation criteria. Grade points for certain advanced courses, which are designated with an (H) or (AP), are computed as follows:

**A = 5 points, B = 4 points, C = 3 points, D = 1 point, F = 0 point.**

## International Baccalaureate Course Fee (SM East and SM Northwest)

The current fee for course testing is \$119.00 (2023-2024). Fees are subject to change based upon the fee structure established by the International Baccalaureate Organization. The candidate subject fee is paid for each assessed subject taken by an individual student. There is

no fee for the reflective project. An additional late fee will be incurred for a DP subject registration, reflective project registration or amendment to a subject, level or language after the first registration deadline. The late fee increases again after the second deadline.

## **Selective College Admissions, Non-Kansas Board of Regents, and Out-of-State Colleges/Universities**

Those students anticipating enrollment in highly selective private or public colleges or universities should investigate the specific requirements of those institutions of higher education and make appropriate course and activity selections. Students who plan to attend colleges or universities who are not governed by the Kansas Board of Regents, including out-of-state, need to contact the admissions department for specific guidance regarding enrollment.

### **Kansas Board of Regents - Qualified Admissions**

The Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) institutions, along with their admission requirements, are listed below:

<b>University</b>	<b>Minimum ACT and/or GPA</b>
Emporia State	21 ACT <b>OR</b> 2.25 GPA
Fort Hays State	21 ACT <b>OR</b> 2.25 GPA
Kansas State	21 ACT <b>OR</b> 3.25 GPA
Pittsburg State	21 ACT <b>OR</b> 2.25 GPA
University of Kansas	3.25 GPA <b>OR</b> 21 ACT WITH 2.00 GPA
Wichita State	21 ACT <b>OR</b> 2.25 GPA

Please check with the university to which you are applying to ensure that you understand their admission requirements. Shawnee Mission School District strongly encourages students interested in attending a college or university after high school graduation to follow the rigorous guidelines outlined in this section.

### **Kansas Scholars Curriculum and Eligibility for Kansas State Scholarship**

In order to be eligible to be named a Kansas Scholar, students must meet the following criteria:

- Students must have taken the ACT between April of the sophomore year and December of the senior year.
- Students must be a Kansas resident.
- Students must have their curriculum and 7th semester GPA certified on the official roster by the high school counselor, registrar, or similar official.
- Students must complete the following curriculum requirements.

**English - 4 years** One unit to be taken each year. Must include substantial recurrent practice in writing extensive and structured papers, extensive reading of significant literature, and significant experience in speaking and listening.

**Mathematics - 4 years** Integrated Algebra / Geometry, Algebra II, and one unit of advanced mathematics-- suggested courses include: Analytic Geometry, Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Functions or Calculus. Completion of Algebra I in 8th grade is acceptable; the student would then only need three years of math in high school.

**Science - 3 years** One year each in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, each of which include an average of one laboratory period a week. Applied/technical courses may not substitute for a unit of natural science credit.

**Social Studies - 3 years** One unit of U.S. History; minimum of one-half unit of U.S. Government and minimum of one-half unit selected from: World History, World Geography or International Relations; and one unit selected from: Psychology, Economics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, Current Social Issues, Sociology, Anthropology, and Race and Ethnic Group Relations. Half unit courses may be combined to make this a whole unit.

**World Language - 2 years** Two years of one language. Latin and Sign Language are accepted.

State Scholars may receive up to \$1,000 annually for up to four undergraduate years (five, if enrolled in a designated five-year program), based on financial need and the availability of State funds. Financial need is measured by federal methodology using data submitted on the FAFSA. For more information, see

[https://www.kansasregents.org/students/student\\_financial\\_aid/kansas\\_scholars\\_curriculum](https://www.kansasregents.org/students/student_financial_aid/kansas_scholars_curriculum).

Designation is based on an index combining the ACT composite score and GPA. Applicants must complete the FAFSA.

Awards are based on financial need.

See: [https://www.kansasregents.org/students/student\\_financial\\_aid/general\\_info](https://www.kansasregents.org/students/student_financial_aid/general_info) for more information.

## **Concurrent Credit**

Shawnee Mission high school students have the opportunity to take academic courses in high school, which have been identified by the district, Johnson County Community College (JCCC), Baker University, and Wichita State University as concurrent credit courses. Upon payment of specified tuition and fees and upon successful completion of the courses, bona fide college credit can be earned. Only students admitted to designated college courses can apply for this special dual credit option. College or university enrollment materials are distributed in the appropriate high school courses during the first 3 weeks of each semester. Not all courses will be available for college credit at each high school. Please refer to your building counseling department for a list of current and anticipated course offerings.

**For JCCC:** <http://www.jccc.edu/admissions/early-college/index.html>

**For Baker University:**

<https://www.bakeru.edu/admissions/residential-admissions-process/concurrent-credit-partnership/>

**For Wichita State:** <https://www.wichita.edu/admissions/undergraduate/concurrent.php>

JCCC, Baker University, and Wichita State University will charge an amount not to exceed that charged to any student as tuition for enrolling in similar campus-based courses. No additional charge beyond those authorized for high school rental fees and materials used for classroom activities will be made. Tuition is subject to change.

**College Campus Study**

Shawnee Mission high school sophomores, juniors and seniors may, with approval at their home high school, enroll in courses in local colleges and universities or a technical program at an accredited post-secondary school in alignment with their Individual Plan of Study. The costs associated with enrolling in a post-secondary institution are the responsibility of the student. Some community colleges are able to waive tuition for tiered career technical courses as covered by the Excel in CTE program (formerly known as SB 155) such as outlined by JCCC: <https://www.jccc.edu/admissions/early-college/high-school-concurrent-enrollment/sb-155.html>

Students will submit a College Campus Study Student/Parent Application form, available in the counseling office that will be reviewed by their counselor and the school administration. In addition, the student must complete a college Transcript Release; this form allows the college to release the student's grades to their high school. Students enrolling in a college campus study course will have the college course transcribed for SMSD high school credit upon district receipt of the college transcript.

Students may enroll in courses for a time that is equivalent to a maximum of three course periods at the high school level, including travel time. A request for a course beyond the three period equivalent must be approved by the building principal or their designee.

Please note that the district is not responsible for accidents that might occur while traveling to or from campus while participating in College Campus Study. For a complete description of College Campus Study, please ask your counselor for a College Campus Study packet, which includes all of the forms necessary for participation in the program.

**College Nights**

The district offers a college planning program each fall. In addition, a college clinic in the district gives parents and students an opportunity to visit with representatives from more than 250 post-secondary institutions at SM East. The financial aid program provides in-depth

information on financial assistance for college, including the FAFSA. The location of the financial aid program will be determined annually and publicized accordingly.

## **Career Pathways**

Shawnee Mission students explore career interests throughout their education from elementary school to high school. Career Pathways offer high school elective courses in a range of subjects and high-demand career fields for students to explore. Career Pathways are an important component to improve students' college and career readiness. Tomorrow's jobs will require additional knowledge, improved skills and highly flexible workers who continually update their knowledge and skills.

## **Career Pathways Advanced Standing Credit**

Career Pathways Advanced Standing Credit is a program that articulates high school classes to credit at Johnson County Community College and other Kansas community colleges at no cost to the student. As part of Career Pathways, instructors from participating high schools and Kansas community colleges align their curricula so students can begin a career path in high school and earn advanced standing credit in a college career program. Instruction is provided on high school campuses. After enrolling and paying fees for college coursework in any field, a student may apply to receive the advanced standing credit for eligible high school courses. Please go to: <https://www.jccc.edu/admissions/early-college/career-pathways/> to find the most current list of articulated classes for JCCC.

The credit is subject to the following guidelines at JCCC:

### Student Responsibilities:

- An application for admission to JCCC and a final high school transcript must be on file with the JCCC Admissions Office.
- Students must be currently enrolled or have completed at least one JCCC credit course in order to receive the credit.
- Beginning fall 2014, students may apply for Advanced Standing Credit for up to two (2) years after their high school graduation.

### JCCC Responsibilities:

- The credit will be posted on the JCCC official transcript as Advanced Standing Credit by the Records Office.
- The grade will be posted as "P" on the JCCC official transcript.
- Credits may not apply toward the JCCC residency requirement for graduation.
- Students may earn a maximum of 30 hours of credit through nontraditional means.
- There is no expectation/guarantee of transferability of these courses. Transferability of these credits is determined by each college or university