

Adopted: 9/12/2018
Revised: 2/14/2024

Saint Paul Public Schools Procedure 510.00.03

510.00.03 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The graduation requirements for students attending Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) meet those of the Minnesota Department of Education and are consistent across district schools and programs. The following procedure provides a summary of the credit requirements, recommendations for elective course work to support college and career readiness, and communication of this guidance.

A. Total credits required for graduation: 86 Credits

B. Credit requirements by subject area and recommendations for electives

Graduation Credits Required by Minnesota Department of Education and Saint Paul Public Schools Class of 2028+		
English Language Arts	16	4 credits per year x 4 years <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Year of English 9• 1 Year of English 10• 1 Years of English 11• 1 Year of English 12
Social Studies	14	14 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Year of World History• 1 Year of US History• 1 Semester of Human Geography• 1 Semester of Economics• 1 Semester of Government
Math	12	4 credits per year x 3 years <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 full years of mathematics, to include Integrated Math I, Integrated Math II, Integrated Math III or beyond
Science	12	4 credits per year x 3 years <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Year of Integrated Science or Earth and Space Science• 1 Year of Biology• 1 Year of Chemistry or Physics
Arts	4	4 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Semesters of Performing or Visual Arts
Critical Ethnic Studies	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 Semester of Critical Ethnic Studies
Personal Finance	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 Semester of Personal Finance
Physical Education	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Semester of an approved Physical Education course

Health	2	2 credits total • 1 Semester of Health, Individual & Community
Career & Technical Education	2	2 credits total • 1 Semester of Career & Technical Education
Electives	18	18 credits over four years
Total Required Graduation Credits	86	
Recommended Elective Credits for College and Career Readiness		
Math	4	4 credits x 1 year Additional coursework in math is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs.
Science	4	4 credits x 1 year Additional coursework in science is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs.
Indigenous or World Language	8	4 credits x 2 years or: Achievement of the World Language Proficiency Certificate or the Seal of Biliteracy (Gold or Platinum) There is no MDE requirement for indigenous or world language; however, many colleges require at least two years of an indigenous or world language.
Career Pathway	6+	2 credits or more per year x 3-4 years Additional Career Pathways courses are encouraged to prepare for postsecondary college or career readiness.

Graduation Credits Required by Minnesota Department of Education and Saint Paul Public Schools Class of 2025 through Class of 2027		
English Language Arts	16	4 credits per year x 4 years • 1 Year of English 9 • 1 Year of English 10 • 1 Years of English 11 • 1 Year of English 12
Social Studies	14	14 credits total • 1 Year of World History • 1 Year of US History • 1 Semester of Human Geography • 1 Semester of Economics

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Semester of Government
Math	12	4 credits per year x 3 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Year of Algebra 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 Year of Math beyond Algebra 2 may be substituted for Algebra 1 requirements if Intermediate Algebra was taken in middle school. • 1 Year of Geometry • 1 Year of Algebra 2
Science	12	4 credits per year x 3 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Year of Science • 1 Year of Biology • 1 Year of Chemistry or Physics
Arts	4	4 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Semesters of Performing or Visual Arts
Critical Ethnic Studies	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Semester of Critical Ethnic Studies
Physical Education	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Semester of Physical Education 9 or 10
Health	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Semester of Health, Individual & Community
Career & Technical Education	2	2 credits total <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Semester of Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science or Technology
Electives	20	20 credits over four years
Total Required Graduation Credits	86	8/2 Schedule
Recommended Elective Credits for College and Career Readiness		
Math	4	4 credits x 1 year Additional coursework in math is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs.
Science	4	4 credits x 1 year Additional coursework in science is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs.
Indigenous or World Language	8	4 credits x 2 years or: Achievement of the World Language Proficiency Certificate or the Seal of Biliteracy (Gold or Platinum)

		There is no MDE requirement for indigenous or world language; however, many colleges require at least two years of an indigenous or world language.
Assessment		
According to the Minnesota Department of Education (January 18, 2018), “Districts have a number of requirements to fulfill for students’ career and college planning for students first enrolled in grade eight in 2012–13 and later. This includes offering students in grades 11 and 12 an opportunity to participate in a nationally recognized college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) on a school day.” SPPS currently offers a school day ACT in the spring of each school year.		

C. Communication of graduation requirements

To assist students and families in planning and preparing for graduation, district graduation requirements will be communicated in multiple ways, including:

- Linked on each high school website
- Linked on the Office of Teaching and Learning and Office of College and Career Readiness websites
- School staff, including administrators and counselors, will use the document to advise and support students and families
- Graduation requirements included in a students’ Personal Learning Plans
- High school registration guides
- High school graduation progress letters

LEGAL REFERENCES:
CROSS REFERENCES:

SPPS Policy 510.00 Graduation