

South Carolina High School Diploma GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject Area	Credits Required
English/Language Arts	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Natural Science	3 credits**
U.S. History	1 credit
Economics	½ credit
U.S. Government	½ credit
Other Social Studies Elective	1 credit
Physical Education or JROTC	1 credit
Computer Science	1 credit
Foreign Language or Career & Technology Education Elective	1 credit**
Electives	7 credits**
Total	24 credits

****Note:** Additional requirements may apply in Natural Science, Foreign Language, and Fine Arts for students planning to attend a four year college; please see chart below.

High School Course Requirements for Applicants to South Carolina 4-Year Public Colleges and Universities

(Effective for Entering College Freshmen in the Academic Year 2011-12)

Course(s)	Units	Requirements for Admission
English	4	At least two having strong grammar and composition components, at least 1 in English literature and 1 in American literature. Completion of College Prep English I, II, III, IV will meet this requirement.
Mathematics	4	At least Algebra I, II and Geometry; fourth higher-level math course should be selected from among Algebra III/trigonometry, pre-calculus, calculus, statistics, discrete math, or a capstone math course and should be taken during the senior year.
Laboratory Science	3	Laboratory sciences must be chosen from at least two of these sciences: biology, chemistry, or physics. Courses in earth science, general physical science, or intro or general environmental science for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite will NOT meet this requirement. Strongly recommended that students take physical science (taught as a lab science) as a prerequisite to the three required units of lab science outlined in this section. Strongly recommended that students desiring to pursue careers in science, math, engineering or technology take one course in all three fields.
U.S. History	1	Dual credit US History courses must include all time periods covered by the state standards for US History.
Economics	½	
Government	½	
Additional Social Studies	1	Global Studies I, Global Studies II, Psychology, Sociology, and Law Education are considered social studies credits. Students should check with their guidance counselor before considering other courses to meet this requirement.
Foreign Language	2	Two units of the same foreign language.
Fine Arts	1	One unit in Appreciation of, History of, or Performance in one of the fine arts.
Physical Ed or JROTC	1	
Electives	1	One Unit must be taken as an elective. A college prep course in Computer Science (one involving significant programming content, not simply keyboarding) is strongly recommended for this elective. Other acceptable electives include college prep courses in English; fine arts; foreign language; social science; humanities; lab sciences (excluding earth science, general physical science, general environmental science, or the introductory science courses for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite); or mathematics above the level of Algebra II.
TOTAL	24	For Additional Information visit: www.che.sc.gov