

Graduation Requirements

Graduation requirements are minimum standards. Students are encouraged to take additional courses during the school year and summer school sessions.

Credits shall include the following:

Required Course	Credits needed for graduation	Required Course Optional Curriculum	Credits needed for graduation Optional Curriculum
English	4	English	4
Math Algebra I or Algebra I Conclusion (1) Geometry or Informal Geometry (1) Other Math Credit (1)	3	Math (any 2 credits)	2
Science Physical Science (1) Biology or AP Biology (1) Other Science Credit (1) <i>Or</i> Biology or AP Biology (1) Chemistry or AP Chemistry (1) Physics or AP Physics (1)	3	Science (any 2 credits)	2
Social Studies Western Civilization or AP European History (1) US History or AP US History (1) Government or AP Government (½) Economics or AP Economics (½) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the requirement of Financial Literacy (NDCC 15.1-21-21) 	3	Social Studies (any 3 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the requirement of Financial Literacy (NDCC 15.1-21-21) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need Economics or Personal Finance 	3
Physical Education	0.5	Physical Education (1.0) Or Physical Education (0.5) and Health (0.5)	1
Health	0.5	Health	See above

World Language, Fine Arts, Career or Tech Education	3	World Language, Fine Arts, Career or Tech Education	2
Electives	5	Electives	7
Minimum Credits Required for Graduation	22		21

Students must pass the ND Civics Test in order to graduate from the Fargo Public School (NDCC 15.1-21-27).

* Optional Curriculum Requirements: If completing at least two years of high school a student has failed to pass at least ½ credit from three of the curricular areas or has a grade point average at or below the twenty-fifth percentile of other students in the district who are enrolled in the same grade, the student may request that the student’s counselor meet with the student and the student’s parent to determine if the student should be permitted to pursue an optional high school curriculum. If a student’s parent consents in writing to the student pursuing the optional high school curriculum, the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma upon completion of the requirements.

Minimum credit enrollment per year:

The minimum attempted credit requirement is six credits per year (freshman and sophomores).

The minimum attempted credit requirement is five credits per year (juniors and seniors if on pace for graduation).

School principal may approve exception to minimum credit enrollment per year.

Students who have completed all Fargo Public Schools requirements will be awarded a diploma and are invited to participate in a graduation ceremony. In addition, to be diploma-eligible, students must be enrolled in an FPS high school during their last semester prior to graduation.

A student may participate in the graduation ceremonies only from the school at which they complete their last semester. School principal may approve exception to this requirement.

Credits earned through an approved online provider or correspondence study may be used toward meeting high school graduation requirements. Credits earned through an approved online provider or correspondence will count towards activity eligibility.

Students may retake any course(s) for the purpose of improving their grade(s) or to enhance their knowledge in the subject(s). If the retake course grade is higher or the same as the original grade, the retake course becomes the course of record on the student’s transcript. The replacement course(s) will be noted as a replacement course on the transcript. The earlier course, grade and credit are deleted from the transcript. If the retake course grade is lower than the original course grade, the original course remains as the course of record on the transcript and the retake course is deleted from the transcript. Thus, the student’s transcript and the GPA

reflect only the highest grade earned. This policy does not apply to transfer credits. The Fargo Public Schools will not change a course's grade transcribed from another district.

Credits earned through Dual Credit Programs may be used toward meeting high school graduation requirements providing the courses have been approved, in advance, by the school principal.

Students who elect to participate in the graduation exercise must wear the authorized cap and gown.

A graduation plan should be addressed for all students with IEPs on an annual basis beginning at age 16 including classes to complete, credits earned, specific transition services, and anticipated graduation date. When a diploma is accepted, all entitlements from the Fargo Public Schools Special Education Services are terminated. Students may participate in graduation ceremonies one time only under any circumstance.

When a student identified as having a disability earns the credits required for graduation, he/she may choose one of the following options:

- Participate in the graduation ceremony after completing the necessary credits, receive a diploma, and leave the school setting exiting special education services. All IEP services and all entitlements from the Fargo Public Schools are terminated.
- Participate in the graduation ceremony after completing the necessary credits, not receive a diploma, and remain a part of the special services school programming and continue to receive services from the special education department as prescribed in the IEP.
- Not participate in the graduation ceremony, not receive a diploma, and remain part of the special services school programming and continue to receive services from the special education department as prescribed in the IEP.

2/15/83
Reviewed 1/06/2003
Revised 8/3/2009
Revised 1/07/10
Revised 12/2012
Revised 3/2015
Revised 8/2017
Revised 7/2018
Revised 8/2022
Revised 4/2024

Fargo Public Schools

APPLICATION TO RETAKE A COURSE

STUDENT _____ Student ID # _____

ADDRESS _____

SCHOOL _____

GRADE CURRENTLY ENROLLED _____ GRADE ENROLLED WHEN COURSE WAS ORIGINALLY TAKEN _____

COURSE TO BE RETAKEN _____

COURSE NUMBER _____

ORIGINAL LETTER GRADE RECEIVED _____

SEMESTER: 1 2 Year _____

(Circle One)

COURSE CREDIT: 1/2 1

(Circle One)

REASON FOR RETAKING THE COURSE:

_____ IMPROVE GRADE

_____ ENHANCE MY KNOWLEDGE AND/OR SKILLS

Students may retake any course for the purpose of improving their grade or to enhance their knowledge in the subject. Each course may be retaken only ONCE. A student who elects to retake a course must be enrolled in at least five (5) classes in addition to the retake course.

_____ DATE _____
STUDENT SIGNATURE

_____ DATE _____
PARENT SIGNATURE

_____ DATE _____
COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

_____ DATE _____
PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE

Optional Curriculum Petition

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Optional Curriculum Requirements: If after completing at least two years of high school, a student has failed at least ½ credit from three different subject areas or has a grade point average at or below the 25th percentile of students at their grade level across the district, the student and legal guardian may request a meeting with the principal and their counselor to determine if the student should be permitted to pursue an optional high school curriculum for graduation. If the student’s legal guardian consents in writing and the principal approves this optional curriculum, the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma upon completion of the requirements below.

4 credit English (1, 2, 3, 4)	1 credit PE/Health
2 credits math	2 credits from AR, BE, FL, FS, ME, MU, TE, VE
2 credits science (Physical Science, Biology)	7 credits elective
3 credits social studies	
	21 credits total

Failed Courses:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Optional Qualifying GPA: _____

Student GPA: _____

Additional Comments:

_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval	_____
Parent signature			Date
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval	_____
Counselor signature			Date
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approval	_____
Principal signature			Date