

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students are required to pass the following courses and Regents exams in order to graduate with a New York State Regents diploma.

SUBJECT AREA	REGENTS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS		ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA *	
	COURSES	EXAMS	COURSES	EXAMS
<b>English</b>	4 course credits	1 Regents exam (11 <sup>th</sup> )		
<b>Social Studies</b>	4 course credits: Global-9, Global-10, US History-11, Econ & Gov-12	2 Regents exams: Global (10 <sup>th</sup> ) US History (11 <sup>th</sup> )		
<b>Math</b>	3 course credits	1 Regents exam: Algebra (9 <sup>th</sup> or 10 <sup>th</sup> )		2 additional Regents exams: Geometry Algebra II
<b>Science</b>	3 course credits: 1 Living Env course, 1 Phys Sci course, 1 elective Sci course	1 Regents exam (Earth Sci, Bio, Chem, or Physics)	All 3 science courses must be Regents level courses.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Regents exam
<b>Language</b>	1 course credit		2 additional course credits in the same language	1 locally-developed language exam
<b>The Arts</b>	1 course credit in Art or Music			
<b>Health</b>	½ course credit			
<b>P.E.</b>	2 course credits			

\* Candidates for the Advanced Regents Diploma must complete one of the following:

- Language Other Than English: 3 credits
- Business Sequence (see page 28): 5 credits
- Art Sequence (see page 32): 5 credits

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT Testing Requirements

Regents Diploma Requirements	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation Requirements
Score 65 or above on 5 required Regents exams.	Score 65 or above on 8 required Regents exams and 1 locally-developed language exam.

Note: The Safety Net is available for classified students. Additional pathways to graduation are available to all students. Please see your counselor for more information.

# Eastchester High School Requirements

***In addition to New York State requirements, EHS requires the following:***

- All students in grades 9 -11 must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 classes plus P.E.
- Seniors must enroll in a minimum of 5 classes plus P.E. (though they are encouraged to take more).
- All students must complete 22 units of credit in order to graduate.

## Promotion Policy

Eastchester High School maintains *Promotional Requirements* that apply to all students. These requirements refer to the minimum number of credits that must be earned and courses that must be passed in order to advance to the next grade level. Grade level determines eligibility for privileges such as off campus lunch, free periods, prom, etc. A student must earn:

- 5 credits to enter 10<sup>th</sup> grade; at least 3 credits must be in English, Social Studies, Math, and Science
- 11 credits to enter 11<sup>th</sup> grade; at least 7 credits must be in English, Social Studies, Math, and Science
- 17 credits to enter 12<sup>th</sup> grade; at least 11 credits must be in English, Social Studies, Math, and Science

## What do colleges look for?

Most importantly, colleges will look at the ***STRENGTH OF YOUR TRANSCRIPT***. A transcript is a record of all high school courses that you took and final grades earned in each course. In other words, colleges will want to know what courses you chose and how well you performed in them.

Colleges will also consider: ACT/SAT scores, letters of recommendation, your grade-point-average (GPA), extracurricular activities, and work experience. The GPA is calculated based on grades earned in 11<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade courses (including courses taken for high school credit in 8<sup>th</sup> grade).

**Many college entrance requirements consist of the following:**

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>Most Colleges</u>	<u>Competitive and Very Competitive Colleges</u>
English	4 years	4-5 years
Social Studies	4 years	4-5 years
Math	3 years	4-5 years
Science	3 years	4-5 years
World Language	3 years	3-5 years

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS

## AP Courses

**Advanced Placement (AP)** courses are rigorous college level courses offered to all students who meet the criteria. At EHS, AP courses are available in **English Language and Composition, English Literature, World History, US History and Government, US Government and Politics, European History, French, Spanish, Italian, Studio Art, Art History, Calculus (AB and BC), Statistics, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Psychology**. In order to enroll in an AP course, all students must:

- complete the application process (where required) in March of the previous year;
- meet prerequisite and other criteria as indicated in the course description;
- commit to taking the AP exam upon the completion of the course in May, which requires student payment of a \$100.00 fee.

## College Credit Courses

EHS also offers additional courses for college credit: **20<sup>th</sup> Century Latin American Revolutions, Pre-calculus, Pre-calculus H, Calculus, Anatomy and Physiology, Physical Geology, Physics, Business Law, Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Financial Accounting**. Upon successful completion of the course, students may be granted 3 or 4 college credits from SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Westchester, or the University at Albany. These credits may be transferable to the college the student attends. **Twentieth Century Latin American Revolutions, Anatomy and Physiology, Physical Geology, Physics and Financial Accounting** receive AP weight in calculating the GPA. Additional college fees are required.

## Honors Courses

Honors courses are available in **English 9, 10, Global Studies 9, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-calculus, Biology, Chemistry, and Advanced Science Research**. These advanced level courses are for highly motivated students who are prepared to handle more rigorous course work. Typically, teacher recommendation and a minimum grade requirement on prerequisite courses are required for enrollment in honors courses. Please refer to each course description for more detailed information and requirements.

## Electives

Our desire is not merely to provide our students with required, or “core,” courses but to offer them opportunities to study courses of interest. This allows our students an opportunity not only to excel in areas of personal interest but also to build a solid transcript.

For this reason, Eastchester High School encourages all of our students to participate in these high-interest, yet academically rigorous, courses.

## **Academic Intervention/Support and Regents Preparation**

Each of the four major academic disciplines (English, Social Studies, Science, and Math) offers a companion workshop to provide extra support. Students may be assigned a workshop based on: 1) teacher or counselor recommendation; 2) an average of 70% or less in a given subject area; 3) a score of 1 or 2 on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade assessment in a given subject area.

## **Advanced Science Research**

Advanced Science Research (ASR) is an independent study course for motivated students interested in conducting their own scientific research. Students are encouraged to study any scientific topic they find interesting. They will be trained as professional scientists in all necessary areas: scientific philosophy, literature review, experimental design/execution, data analysis, scientific communication (presentations and writing professionally). Students will design and conduct their own experiments at school. Students will also find professional/university-level scientists in their field of choice in order to conduct original research outside the classroom. Their results will be presented in high profile science competitions, including Regeneron Talent Search (formerly Intel). Tenth grade students are required to commit to 3 years of enrollment in order to complete the research required. This course receives Honors weighting.

## **ACT/SAT Prep Courses**

Since the vast majority of colleges and universities use standardized test scores in their selection process, our students are encouraged to discuss test preparation options with their high school counselor before registering. There are a number of programs offered to help prepare for the ACT/SAT.

## **Summer School**

A remedial summer school program is available to students who have not passed courses required for graduation. Graduation requirements are typically offered to students in grades 9 and 10. Students may enroll in a maximum of 2 summer classes.

## **WISE**

WISE offers options for graduating seniors to spend the last 6 weeks of their senior year, after courses are successfully completed, working 25 hours/week in an unpaid internship or completing a pre-approved research or personal project. The WISE program seeks to provide graduating seniors with a workplace experience in career areas of interest. Students observe professional interactions and functions in a wide range of fields and perform tasks where appropriate. Students will attend workshops on career exploration, resume writing, workplace etiquette and complete all required WISE assignments and paperwork before being approved to begin WISE. The experience culminates in June with a presentation at the WISE Showcase.

# Course Selection Process & Timeline

The course selection process provides students an opportunity to choose among a broad range of courses. Counselors work closely with students in making the most appropriate selections based on interests, abilities and post high school plans. Students are encouraged to carefully consider their choices by consulting with teachers and parents. The entire master schedule of the high school is driven by students' final choices for the next school year. Therefore, most changes will not be permitted once the current school year ends in June. Please know that we will make every effort to accommodate all student requests; however, we cannot guarantee that all requests can be honored.

## February/March:

- Students request preliminary courses for the following year and discuss their preliminary choices with parents, teachers, and counselors.
- All students are encouraged to take an appropriately challenging course load.

## April/May:

- Teachers are notified of student choices and determine whether choices are appropriate.
- A list of each student's preliminary course requests (with teacher amendments) will be available in Home Access.
- Students will have a final opportunity to make changes in course requests for next year.

## August:

- Final student schedules will be available in Home Access.
- Students will have an opportunity to make corrections prior to the opening of school only in the event of a schedule conflict or if a graduation requirement and/or lunch are missing from the schedule.

## Add/Drop Policy

Students are expected to remain committed to choices made during the course selection process. Schedule changes will be made only in the event of a conflict or if a graduation requirement and/or lunch are missing from the schedule. Requests for changes of class periods, teachers, preferred lunch times or electives will not be honored.

Dropping courses is strongly discouraged. However, with parent, teacher, and administrative approval, a student may drop a course as indicated below. The student must attend the class until he/she is officially removed by the counselor and after the appropriate paperwork is completed.

A full-year course may be dropped during the first 20 class days of the school year. A half-year course may be dropped during the first 10 class days of the school year. After that time, a WF (*withdrew failing*) or a WP (*withdrew passing*) will be noted on the student's transcript. Students may also add a semester course during this 10-day period. No course may be dropped after the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter (full year course) or the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of a half-year course.

**Note:** If a student changes level, the grades earned in the original class will be included and tabulated in the final average. If the level change occurs during the first 20 class days in a full-year course or during the first 10 days of a half-year course, grades will not be included in the quarterly average.