

Mahwah Township Public Schools
Mahwah High School

Graduation Requirements for Class of 2026 and thereafter

Students are required to successfully complete specific courses by NJ Statute. Should a student fail a course, they should be strongly encouraged to go to summer school for credit recovery in these courses, or they will need to take them before being able to enter the next course in sequence.

Courses	Years of Study	Credits
English (Core: ELA9, ELA10, ELA11 or AP, ELA 12 or AP)	4	20
Social Studies (World History, US History 1 & US History 2)	3	15
Mathematics (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2) [Three years of mathematics level courses must be completed while enrolled in high school.]	3	15
Science (Core: Biology, Chemistry, Physics)	3	18*
World Language (two consecutive years of same language)	2	10
Physical Education/Health/ Driver Education	4 (during each year of enrollment)	16-20
Visual or Performing Arts (Art, Music, Drama, Dance)	1	5
21st century life and careers, or career and technical education, media arts (Practical Arts)	1	5
Financial Literacy	0.5 (1Semester)	2.5
Freshman Advisory	1	1
Electives	4	22.5
Total Credits		125

NJ State Assessment Requirements: NJSL Assessment in Science for any student enrolled in Grade 11; as well as a passing score on state approved NJGPA assessments as outlined in charts below by class cohort.

Participation in Graduation Exercises

In order to participate in graduation exercises students must complete all the academic, assessment, and attendance requirements for the courses necessary for a Mahwah High School diploma. In addition, students must fulfill all obligations (financial, disciplinary, etc.) which they have incurred. Students who do not meet the requirements necessary for graduation will not be permitted to participate/walk in graduation in June. Participation in graduation exercises is a privilege not a right.

Revised 7/11/2025

Class of 2024 and 2025 (Updated May 2023)

On May 3, 2023, the State Board of Education approved the graduation ready cut score for the ELA and mathematics components of the NJGPA, as well as the menu of alternative assessments and aligned cut scores.

The requirements in this section were adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Education on September 8, 2021 for the classes of 2023–2025.

English Language Arts and Literacy (ELA)

If, after completing the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11, students did not demonstrate proficiency by passing the ELA component, such students may access the following pathways:

- **Second Pathway:** By meeting the designated cut score on a substitute competency test such as the PSAT, SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; or
- **Third Pathway:** By submitting, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Mathematics

If, after completing the required New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11, students did not demonstrate proficiency by passing the mathematics component, such students may access the following pathways:

- **Second Pathway:** By meeting the designated cut score on a substitute competency test such as the PSAT, SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; or
- **Third Pathway:** By submitting, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Students must take and demonstrate proficiency in grade 11 on the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment, which includes content aligned to the grade 10 New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) in ELA, and the NJSLS in Algebra 1 and Geometry. If after completing the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment a student does not demonstrate proficiency on the ELA or mathematics section, the student may retake the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in the following summer or fall.

A student with disabilities whose IEP states that they are not eligible for the alternate assessment (Dynamic Learning Maps) must take the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11.

First Pathway—NJGPA

Note: Cut Scores Approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education on May 3, 2023

ELA	Mathematics
New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment—ELA \geq 725 (Graduation Ready)	New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment—Mathematics \geq 725 (Graduation Ready)

Note: This pathway is only available to students who completed the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11.

Students who sat for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11 and did not demonstrate proficiency are able to demonstrate proficiency in ELA and/or mathematics by meeting the designated cut score on one of the assessments on the menu of substitute competency tests in the table for the second pathway (below).

Second Pathway—Menu of Substitute Competency Tests

Note: Cut Scores Approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education on May 3, 2023

ELA	Mathematics
<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT Reading ≥ 17 • Accuplacer WritePlacer ≥ 5 • Accuplacer WritePlacer English Second Language ≥ 4 • PSAT10 Evidence Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) ≥ 420 • PSAT10 Reading ≥ 21 • PSAT/NMSQT EBRW ≥ 420 • PSAT/NMSQT Reading ≥ 21 • SAT EBRW ≥ 450 • SAT Reading ≥ 23 	<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT Math ≥ 17 • Accuplacer Elementary Algebra ≥ 49 • Accuplacer Next-Generation QAS ≥ 250 • PSAT10 Math Section or PSAT/NMSQT Math Section ≥ 420 • PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math ≥ 21 • SAT Math Section ≥ 440 • SAT Math Test ≥ 22



Note: This pathway is only available to students who completed the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11.

Students who completed the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11 and did not demonstrate proficiency are able to demonstrate proficiency in ELA and/or mathematics through a portfolio appeal in grade 12.

Third Pathway—Portfolio Appeals

ELA	Mathematics
Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math