

Graduation Requirements

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Subjects	Required Credits
English ¹	4
Math ²	3
Science	2
American history	1
American Government & Civics ³	0.5
PE/NJROTC/Band	3
Consumer Education	0.5
Health	0.5
Drivers Ed	0.5
Electives: Minimum of the following:	7
•Social Studies.....1 Credit	
•Fine and Performing Arts, World Language, or Career & technical Education.....1 Credit	
•Reading ⁴ Up to 3 Credits	
Appropriate Illinois State mandated testing ⁵	Must be taken
Total Credits Needed to Graduate	22
Notes: 1. Students must complete 2 years of writing intensive courses, one of which must be an English class: classes that satisfy this requirement are marked in the course descriptions. 2. Math credits must include 1 year of Algebra I and 1 year of a Geometry content course. 3. Per ILCS 5/27-22, all students enrolled in this course must take and pass the US Constitution Test. 4. Reading courses are offered in grades 9-11 at three levels (Strategic, College Prep, and Honors). Students who score at the 70th percentile or below on the MAP Reading or a SAT Suite (PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, PSAT-NMSQT, or SAT) equivalent score will be placed into a Reading course. Students who would benefit, must take and pass a Reading course each year. Students will be re-evaluated every year for placement into one of the three levels. 5. Mandated state testing must be taken per Illinois School Code before graduation. 6. The FAFSA or FAFSA waiver must be completed.	

TESTING

All students are required to comply with all State of Illinois Testing Laws in order to graduate. The State of Illinois requires that all students be tested in English/reading, math, and science one time during high school in order to graduate. All high school students must take the ACT college-entrance exam on the state testing date in the spring of their junior year. The ACT assesses English, reading, and math. Additionally, students must take the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) during the year that they take Biology. The US Constitution Test is a graduation requirement. All students will take and must pass the US Constitution Test in their American Government & Civics class. While enrolled in Physical Education courses, students are required to complete FitnessGram testing. FitnessGram assesses flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, and muscular strength and endurance. Students will take this assessment twice each semester that they are enrolled in PE to measure student improvement in these areas.

DRIVERS EDUCATION

The classroom portion of Drivers Education is required for graduation. Students can elect to take the driving portion of the course for an additional fee. Drivers Education is scheduled for students according to age. Freshmen are **NOT** eligible for Drivers Education. A student must have passed 8 classes in the previous 2 semesters to qualify for Drivers Education per Illinois law.

EARLY GRADUATION

Senior students who have completed all graduation requirements and have the minimum graduation credits may request early graduation, but they will not receive their diplomas until May. It is the responsibility of the students to notify their counselor of their intent to work towards early graduation.

MINIMUM COURSE LOADS

All students are required to take six subjects per semester including physical education (NJROTC or Band may be substituted for PE), an enrichment/intervention, and lunch.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Students will receive their course requests for the following year in the spring. They will be given a window of time to request changes. There will be no automatic changes once this window has closed. Any changes after this time would be at the discretion of the administration, the counseling staff, and the academic department chair. By state law, there can be absolutely no course change after the 10th day of the semester.

College and Career Readiness

CAREER PLANNING

East Aurora High School provides students with many opportunities to prepare themselves for entrance into specific careers. Students are encouraged to discuss with their counselors the sequence of courses that will provide them with the training needed for preparation for their desired career. Students are also encouraged to take advantage of the resources of the EAHS College and Career Center and to work directly with a Counselor.

COLLEGE PLANNING

Colleges vary greatly in their admission requirements. In order to provide more options, students should carefully plan a four-year program.

Most universities recommend the following track of high school courses:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Social Studies
- 4 years of Math (through intermediate and college algebra)
- 3 years of Science
- 2 years of World Language
- 1 year of Fine Arts/Pre-professional or Vocational Electives

College-bound students should plan their schedules accordingly. Students who are planning to apply to highly selective colleges and universities should follow the above guidelines and consider four years of mathematics, science, and world language.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTING

Most colleges and universities require that students take an entrance exam, either the ACT or SAT, to complete their application; schools use the results of these exams to make admissions decisions. Many students choose to take these exams multiple times to improve their scores. East Aurora High School provides multiple opportunities for students to take these assessments during the officially designated all school testing days in both the fall and the spring. Freshman will take the PSAT 8/9, Sophomores will take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall and the PSAT 10 in the spring, and Juniors will take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall and the SAT in the spring. The SAT satisfies the state requirement of a College and Career Readiness Exam to qualify for graduation in Illinois.

Students who are interested in applying to college should speak to their counselor ensure that the schools chosen match their needs and interests and to discuss any required entrance exams.

CAREER CLUSTERS & SCHOOLINKS

The National Career Clusters Framework as designated by the US Department of Education contains 16 Career Clusters that encompass 79 Career Pathways.

Those 16 Career Clusters are:

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering &
- Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

East Aurora High School utilizes a platform called SchoolLinks to help students navigate the challenging world of career planning and exploration. SchoolLinks is an online college and career resource available to all East High students. SchoolLinks provides students the resources to help them make informed decisions about their college and career pursuits. With a database of information on hundreds of different colleges and post-secondary programs, students can use SchoolLinks comprehensive search and matching tools to create a list of schools that fit their personal and academic interests.

SchoolLinks also helps facilitate the college application process by directly linking an account to students' EA counselor and teachers, allowing them to submit nearly all application materials, letters of recommendation, and other supporting documents (including official transcripts) electronically. SchoolLinks also has extensive information on different career paths and professional industries. With a variety of different vocational tests and assessments available to all students, SchoolLinks can help students identify a number of different career opportunities in which they might be interested. Counselors utilize the results of those assessments to advise students during course selection to ensure that students are considering appropriate career pathways.

SchoolLinks also directly links to appropriate college, trade school, or training programs connected to those pathways. The career component of SchoolLinks is equally as important for those students that are college bound as it is for students that plan to go directly into the working world following their graduation from EAHS.