



## Accelerated Graduation Pathway

Beginning with the Class of 2025, state law prohibits UCPS from requiring more graduation credits than the minimum adopted by the NC State Board of Education which is currently 22 credits. UCPS has traditionally and will continue to recommend 28 credits for HS graduation, however, all public high school students must meet minimum state graduation requirements to earn a diploma and graduate. These graduation requirements are considered the Future-Ready Course of Study (FRC) requirements and prepare students for post-secondary success.

All students must earn at least 22 credits in the Future-Ready Course of Study to graduate from high school. The Future-Ready Course graduation requirements ensure that a student is prepared for life and whatever pathway they choose after they graduate, workplace, colleges/university or the military. Below are the specific course requirements.

1. Students will select this pathway prior to registering for 9th grade. Students entering ninth grade for the first time in 2024-2025 or afterwards must earn credit for the following courses and accumulate at least 22 total credits:
  - Four English credits (English I, II, III, IV)
  - Four Math credits (Math I, II, III and one other math course aligned with the student's post high school plan.
  - Three Science credits (Earth/Environmental Science, Biology, Physical Science)
  - Four Social Studies credits (Civic Literacy, Economics and Personal Finance, American History, World History)
  - One Health/PE credit
  - Six Elective credits
    - Two Elective credits of any combination from either
      - Career and Technical Education (CTE) or
      - Arts Education
      - World Language
    - Four Elective credits (four-course concentration strongly recommended)
      - Career and Technical Education (CTE) or
      - JROTC
      - Arts Education (Such as dance, music, theater arts, visual arts)
      - Any other subject area (Such as social studies, science, math or English)
2. Students must be at least 16 years of age at the time of graduation.
3. Students will complete and sign a 3 year graduation request form that is also signed by the parent or legal guardian.
4. Students and the parent or legal guardian will meet with a school administrator and counselor to discuss the implications of graduating after 3 years.
5. Find course sequencing below.



## Accelerated Graduation Pathway Request Form

Complete the following information.

Student Name:

High School Name:

Age:

Date of Birth:

Parent or Legal Guardian Name:

Anticipated Graduation Date:

The Accelerated Graduation Pathway Request Form must be completed, signed by the student and the parent or legal guardian prior to being submitted to the high school counselor.

\*\* I understand that submitting this request requires me to meet with an administrator from my high school along with a counselor and a parent or legal guardian. I agree that I will commit to and comply with the guidelines outlined in this packet to fulfill all high school graduation requirements for the 22 credit accelerated graduation pathway.

\*\*Please answer the following question as completely as possible. Feel free to use the back side of this paper if additional space is needed.\*\*

1. Explain the reason(s) why you would like to graduate from high school in 3 years. What are your goals after high school? Do you plan to enter the workforce, a college/university or the military?



## **Accelerated Graduation Pathway Contract of Commitment**

Students requesting the 22 credit accelerated graduation pathway are expected to:

1. Declare the 22 credit accelerated graduation pathway prior to registering for the 9th grade year.
2. Complete the request form packet.
3. Meet with the school team including an administrator and counselor, along with the parent or legal guardian.
  - a. The purpose of the meeting is to clearly delineate that the 22 credit accelerated graduation pathway is a terminal diploma.
  - b. Students will not be able to return to high school to complete a 4th year.
  - c. After earning 22 credits to graduate, students will no longer participate in school events as a student. Examples include but are not limited to sports, clubs, dances, etc.
4. Students completing the 22 credit accelerated graduation pathway will be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.
5. Students who choose to complete the 22-credit accelerated graduation pathway will conclude their high school enrollment upon meeting all graduation requirements. As a result, they will not participate in activities and privileges reserved for students enrolled through the traditional senior year. These may include, but are not limited to, student parking, senior portraits, early dismissal privileges, and other end-of-senior-year events.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand my responsibilities while pursuing the 22 credit Accelerated Graduation Pathway. I understand that this is a terminal diploma and all the implications of completing the 22 credit accelerated graduation pathway.

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**Student signature/date**

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**Parent signature/date**

## Accelerated Graduation Suggested Pathway Course Sequencing

|  | 9th                           |  | 10th                          |  | 11th                             |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
|  | <i>(math)</i>                 |  | <i>(history)</i>              |  | <i>(English)</i>                 |  |
|  | English I                     |  | <b>English II</b>             |  | Fourth Math                      |  |
|  | <b>Math 1</b>                 |  | Math 3                        |  | Economics<br>Personal<br>Finance |  |
|  | World History                 |  | American<br>History           |  | Elective (4/4)                   |  |
|  | Health/PE                     |  | Elective (2/4)                |  | English III                      |  |
|  | Math 2                        |  | Civic Literacy                |  | English IV                       |  |
|  | Earth and<br>Environmental    |  | <b>Biology</b>                |  | Physical<br>Science              |  |
|  | CTE/Arts/WL<br>Elective (1/2) |  | CTE/Arts/WL<br>Elective (2/2) |  |                                  |  |
|  | Elective (1/4)                |  | Elective (3/4)                |  |                                  |  |
|  |                               |  |                               |  |                                  |  |

## Accelerated Graduation Pathway Student/Parent



## Meeting

Student Name:

High School Name:

Parent or Legal Guardian Name:

Projected Graduation Date:

Meeting Date:

Discussion Points/Outcomes:

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Student signature/date

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Parent signature/date

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Administrator signature/date

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Counselor signature/date

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Central Office use Only

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Processors Signature/date

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Superintendent's Designee