

Students Entering Grade Nine In 2013-2014 School Year

What Students and Parents Need to Know

What are the options to earn a 24-credit standard diploma?

4 Credits English Language Arts (ELA)
ELA 1, 2, 3, 4 ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement
4 Credits Mathematics
One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be geometry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry certification courses that lead to college credit may substitute for up to 2 mathematics credits
3 Credits Science
One of which must be Biology 1 and two of which must be in equally rigorous science courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 of the 3 required science credits must have a laboratory component Industry certification courses that lead to college credit may substitute for up to 1 science credit
3 Credits Social Studies
1 credit in world history, 1 credit in U.S. history, .5 credit in U.S. government and .5 credit in economics to include financial literacy
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate or Practical Arts
Eligible courses are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory www.fldoe.org/articulation/CCD/default.asp
1 Credit Physical Education
To include the integration of health
8 Elective Credits
Note: 2 credits in the same world language are required for admission into state universities
1 Online Course

Can a student who selects the 24-credit program graduate early?

Yes, a student who completes all the 24-credit program requirements for a standard diploma may graduate in less than eight semesters.

A student must successfully complete a

- 24-credit standard diploma,
- ACCEL option,
- AICE curriculum, or
- IB diploma curriculum.

Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and pass the required statewide assessments.

18-Credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)

- Physical education is not required
- 3 elective credits
- Online course is not required

All other graduation requirements for a 24-credit standard diploma must be met (per section 1003.4282(3)(a)-(e), Florida Statute [F.S.]).



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What is the credit acceleration program (CAP)?

This program allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- U.S. History
- Biology 1

Diploma Designations

Scholar Diploma Designation

In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements a student must:

- Pass the ELA Grade 11 statewide assessment once implemented
- Earn 1 credit in Algebra 2 (must pass statewide assessment)
- Earn 1 credit in statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology 1 EOC
- Earn 1 credit in chemistry or physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC
- Earn 2 credits in the same world language
- Earn at least 1 credit in Advanced Placement (AP), IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course.

Merit Diploma Designation

In addition to meeting the standard high school diploma requirements a student must:

- Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.).

Acceleration courses and advanced coursework options include dual enrollment and early admission, AICE Program, AP Program, IB Program and industry certification. For more information, visit www.fldoe.org/schools/SupportForNGHS.asp.

For more information on local public school district graduation programs, please contact the school counselor. The Florida Department of Education provides additional resources on the Graduation Requirements webpage at www.fldoe.org/bii/studentpro/grad-require.asp.

Postsecondary Options

State University System

Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous curriculum in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements:

- High school graduation with a standard diploma
- Admission test scores
- 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses
- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Mathematics (Algebra 1 level and above)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language)
- 2 approved electives

www.flbog.edu/forstudents/planning

The Florida College System

Includes 28 state colleges. These institutions offer career-related certificates and two-year associate degrees that prepare students to transfer to a bachelor's degree program or to enter jobs requiring specific skills. Many also offer baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields. Florida College System institutions have an open door policy. This means that students who have earned a standard high school diploma, have earned a high school equivalency diploma or have demonstrated success in postsecondary coursework will be admitted to an associate degree program.

www.fldoe.org/fcs

Financial Aid

The Office of Student Financial Assistance administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships.

www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/

Bright Futures

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program rewards students for their academic achievements during high school by providing funding to attend a postsecondary institution in Florida.

www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/

