



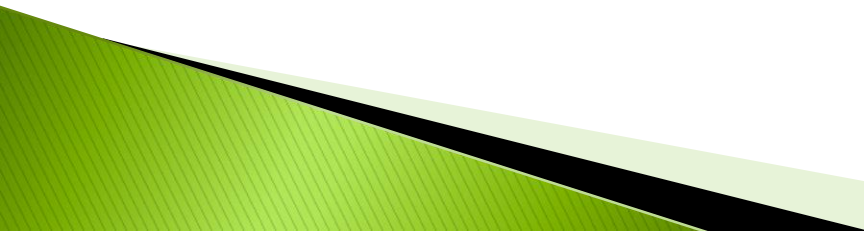
High School Graduation Requirements

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February– 2015

Agenda


- ▶ **Basic State of Florida Graduation Requirements**
 - 24 Credits and 18 Credits
 - Standard Diplomas on Access Points
 - ▶ **State Diploma Designations**
 - Scholar and Merit
 - ▶ **Pinellas County Schools Graduation Pathways**
 - Pinellas County Diploma Designations
 - ▶ **State Assessments required for Graduation**
 - ▶ **General Q/A**
 - Please keep this time for general questions not specific to issues for individual students
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Where to access this information?

- o Florida Department of Education
 - o Go to <http://www.fldoe.org/>
 - o Hover over "Academics" to activate drop down and click on Graduation Requirements
 - o Scroll down to "Academic Advisement Flyers"
 - o Click on the year your student entered 9th grade



State of Florida Graduation Requirements

- ▶ Florida Education Statute designates:
 - Number of credits students must earn
 - Specific courses by subject area students must earn credits in
 - Grade Point Average that must be maintained
 - Specific state assessments students must take and pass, or must take and count as a percentage of their final grades in the course
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Number of Credits Required for Graduation


- ▶ Three Options:
 - Standard 24 credits
 - Accelerated 18 credits
 - Standard Diploma on Access Points (next set of slides)
- ▶ All options result in standard high school diplomas
- ▶ All options can be finished in 4 years or earlier (for early graduation)
- ▶ All options require students to maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 (equivalent to a C grade)

Specific Courses within 24 credit option (core academics)

- ▶ 4 Credits in English Language Arts
 - English 1, 2, 3, and 4 which can include Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge AICE*, or Dual Enrollment English classes
- ▶ 4 Credits in Mathematics
 - Which must include algebra 1 and geometry
- ▶ 3 Credits in Science
 - Which must include biology and 2 other equally rigorous science courses
- ▶ 3 Credits in Social Studies
 - Which must include World History, US History, Economics, and Government

*AICE= Advanced International
Certificate of Education

Specific Courses within 24 credit option (other subject areas)

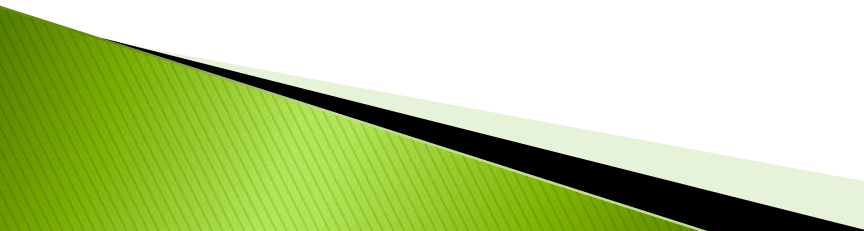
- ▶ 1 Credit in Health Options Physical Education
 - ▶ 1 Credit in fine arts OR performing arts OR practical arts courses
 - ▶ 8 Elective Credits (the state university system admissions process does require 2 of these electives to be from 2 years in a world language)
 - ▶ And ONE course within the 24 credits in the last 2 slides must have been an ONLINE course
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Specific Courses within 18 credit option (core academics)

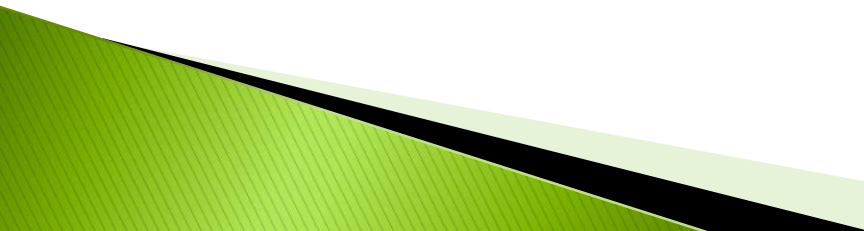
- ▶ 4 Credits in English Language Arts classes
 - English 1, 2, 3, and 4 which can include Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge AICE*, or Dual Enrollment English classes
- ▶ 4 Credits in Mathematics
 - Which must include algebra 1 and geometry
- ▶ 3 Credits in Science
 - Which must include biology and 2 other equally rigorous science courses
- ▶ 3 Credits in Social Studies
 - Which must include World History, US History, Economics, and Government

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Specific Courses within 18 credit option (other subject areas)

- ▶ 1 Credit in fine arts OR performing arts OR practical arts courses
 - ▶ 3 Elective Credits (the state university system admissions process does require 2 of these electives to be from 2 years in a world language)
 - ▶ NO Health Options Physical Education course OR online course are needed for the 18 credit option
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Allowable Industry Certifications for Course Substitutions

- ▶ As provided in [s. 1003.4282, F.S.](#), industry certifications (IC) that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two (2) mathematics credits and up to one science credit toward high school graduation.
 - ▶ The IC mathematics substitutions may not be used to substitute for Algebra 1 or Geometry requirements.
 - ▶ The IC science substitution may not be used to substitute for the Biology 1 requirements.
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Allowable Industry Certifications for Course Substitutions

- ▶ The eligible industry certifications that are tied to statewide college credit may be found at <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-technical-edu-agreements/industry-certification.shtml>

Diploma Pathways for Students with Disabilities

Katie Csaszar

ESE High School Curriculum Specialist

IEP Team Decision

- All decisions regarding a student's diploma option are made by the IEP team
- Eligibility requirements are in place for all diploma options
- Decisions are made based on the best interest of each student

Diploma Pathways

- **Standard Diploma**
- **Standard Diploma w/ Employment Competencies** (only available for students with disabilities)
- **Standard Diploma via Access Courses** (only available for students with significant cognitive disabilities)
 - All other students (2014-2015 cohort and beyond) have to be working towards a Standard Diploma via Access Courses
- **ACCEL-18 credit** (available to ALL students with disabilities, including those enrolled in Access courses)
- **Special Diploma**
 - Only current 11th and 12th graders (2012-2013 and 2013-2014 years of entry) are still eligible for a Special Diploma (they would have been working toward a special diploma already)

Standard Diploma

- 24 credits
- 2.0 GPA
- Requirements are the same for students with or without disabilities enrolled in general education core courses

Standard Diploma w/ Employment Competencies

(only available to students with disabilities)

- 24 credits
- 2.0 GPA
- At least .5 credit in an employment based course
- Documented successful employment for the specified number of weeks, paid minimum wage, equivalent of 1 semester
- Documented on the student's transition plan, with IEP team involvement

Standard Diploma via Access Courses

- Graduation requirements are **the same** as any student working toward a standard diploma
- Only students with significant cognitive disabilities are eligible for this diploma option
- Courses are labeled as Access courses

ACCEL (18 credit) Option

- All students with disabilities are eligible (including those with significant cognitive disabilities)
- 18 credits
- 2.0 GPA
- 3 elective credits (instead of 8)
- HOPE is not required
- Online course is not required

Special Diploma

- Only current 11th and 12th graders (2012-2013 and 2013-2014 years of entry) are still eligible for a Special Diploma (they would have been working toward a special diploma already)
 - This option will be available through the year 2022-2023 to allow students already working toward this option to complete course work/reach the age of 22
- Any student who enters high school in 2014-2015 or beyond will not be eligible to work toward a Special Diploma
 - Standard Diploma via Access Courses
- Students already working toward a Special Diploma may continue to do so
 - (The option for a special diploma is not going away for these students)

Contact Information

- Katie Csaszar
 - 727/588-6000 x2048
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State Diploma Designations

► Scholar Designation

Scholar Diploma Designation

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

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra II (must pass EOC);
- Pass the Geometry EOC;
- Earn 1 credit in statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course;
- Pass the Biology I 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; and
- Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course.

A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology I or U.S. History course and the student

- Takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and
- Earns the minimum score to earn college credit.

State Diploma Designations

▶ Merit Designation

Merit Diploma Designation

- Meet the standard high school diploma requirements
- Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per section 1003.492, Florida Statutes).

Has your student selected their...



Pinellas Pathways to Graduation

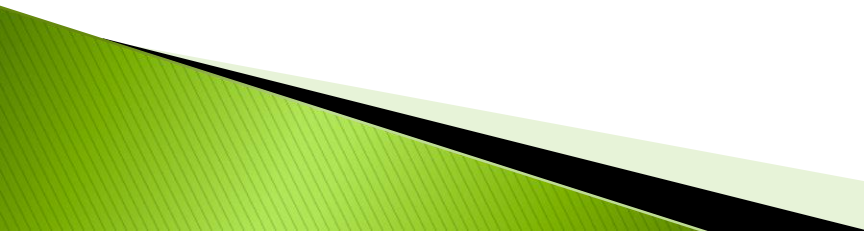
- ▶ **Advanced Scholar Pathway**
- ▶ This course of study includes a rigorous series of required and elective courses that best prepare students seeking admission to competitive four-year universities both in and out of state.
- ▶ This Pathway aligns with Pinellas County School's Advanced Scholar diploma designation.

Students who choose the Advanced Scholar Pathway will also have the opportunity to be recognized as Advanced Placement Scholars by the district and the [College Board](#).

Pinellas Pathways to Graduation

- ▶ **College Pathway**
- ▶ This course of study includes a rigorous series of required and elective courses that best prepare students seeking admission to universities or two- to four-year college degree programs both in and out of state.
- ▶ This Pathway aligns with the state's Scholar diploma designation.

Pinellas Pathways to Graduation

- ▶ **Technical/College Pathway**
 - ▶ This course of study offers the opportunity for students to challenge themselves in specific academic and elective areas of interest, earn nationally recognized industry certifications and seek admission to universities, two- to four-year college degree or technical programs both in and out of state.
 - ▶ This Pathway aligns with the state's Merit diploma designation.
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State Assessments Requiring a Passing Score for Graduation

- ▶ 10th grade Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) in English Language Arts
 - measures literacy– reading, writing, speaking and listening
- ▶ Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment

Please note...

- ▶ Students are also required to take the following assessments which count as 30% of the student's final year-long course grades:
 - Geometry
 - Algebra 2
 - Biology
 - US History

Please keep topics general!

