

Hillsborough County Public Schools

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

STUDENTS ENTERING 9TH GRADE IN THE 2014-2015 School Year and Thereafter

	24 CREDIT PROGRAM STANDARD DIPLOMA	SCHOLAR DESIGNATION (In Addition to the 24 Credit Standard Diploma Requirements)
English	4 required English I, II, III, IV	
Mathematics	4 required Including ¹ Algebra I or its equivalent and ² Geometry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry). 	1 credit in Algebra II 1 credit in Statistics or equally rigorous mathematics course Pass Geometry End of Course Exam (EOC)
Science	3 required Including ³ Biology I and two credits in equally rigorous science courses Two credits must have a laboratory component. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I). An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I). 	Pass Biology I EOC * 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
Social Studies	3 required World History, ⁴ United States History, United States Government (.50 credit), and Economics with Financial Literacy (.50 credit)	Pass United States History EOC *
Fine Arts	1 required In Fine or Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or approved Practical Arts course	
Physical Education	1 required HOPE	
World Language	Not required for graduation, but at least two credits in the same language are required for admission into four year colleges and universities.	Two credits in the same world language
Electives	8 required Elective credit details for Bright Futures Scholarships, go to www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org .	
Online/Virtual Course	At least one course within the 24 credits required must be completed through online learning.	
Minimum Graduation Credit Requirement	24 credits	24 Credits One credit must be in Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, dual enrollment, or International Baccalaureate (IB).
ACCEL OPTION (18 CREDIT)	Three elective credits instead of eight; Physical Education is not required; Online/Virtual Course not required. All other graduation requirements for a 24-credit standard diploma must be met (per Florida Statutes).	
Merit Designation	In addition to the 24 credit standard diploma requirements, students pursuing merit designation must attain one or more industry certifications from the state approved list.	
Seal of Bilingualism	The attainment of a high level of competency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more foreign languages in addition to English.	
Assessment	Must pass Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) assessment (or earn concordant ACT or SAT score) and ¹ Algebra I EOC exam (or earn PERT comparative score).	
GPA	2.0 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted state GPA)	
GPA Bonus Points	.04 Points per .50 honors credit (final grade must be C or above) .08 Points for Dual Enrollment, AP, and IB per .50 credit (final grade must be C or above)	

Graduation requirements for students with disabilities: In addition to the 24-credit and the ACCEL 18-credit options above; there are two other standard diploma options available only to students with disabilities: academic and employment option and the access points option. Both require the 24 credits listed in the chart and both allow students to substitute a career and technical (CTE) course with related content for one credit in ELA IV, mathematics, science, and social studies (excluding Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, and United States History). Students who choose the academic and employment option must earn at least .50 credit via paid employment (counts as .50 elective credit). Students with significant cognitive disabilities may earn credits via access courses and will be assessed with the Florida Alternate Assessment. See "Standard Diploma for Students with Disabilities served Through Access Points and Alternately Assessed" for additional information.

Students enrolled in ¹Algebra I, ²Geometry, ³Biology, and/or ⁴United States History must take the respective EOC exam, and it will constitute 30% of the student's final grade. Special Note: Thirty percent not applicable if enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry, and/or Algebra II in the 2014-2015 school year.

* **For the purpose of Scholar Designation only**, a student is exempt from the Biology I or United States History EOC if enrolled in AP, IB, or AICE Biology I or United States History course and takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment and earns the minimum score to earn college credit.