

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS 2010-2013

This table represents requirements for students who entered 9th grade in the **2010-2011 through 2012-2013** school years. In order to graduate from high school and earn a diploma, students must successfully complete the required credits, earn the required grade point average (GPA), and earn a passing score on the FCAT 2.0 Reading graduation test and End of Course Assessments, as applicable.

	24 CREDIT OPTION	18 CREDIT COLLEGE PREPARATORY OPTION	18 CREDIT CAREER PREPARATORY OPTION
ENGLISH/ESOL	4 credits (major concentration in composition, reading for information, and literature)	4 credits (major concentration in composition, reading for information, and literature)	4 credits (major concentration in composition, reading for information, and literature)
MATHEMATICS	4 credits (Algebra 1, Geometry, and two courses at the Algebra 2 level or higher)	4 credits (Algebra 1, Geometry, and two courses at the Algebra 2 level or higher)	4 credits (Algebra 1, Geometry, and two courses at the Algebra 2 level or higher)
SCIENCE*	3 credits (Earth/Space Science* and Biology 1, and one course from the following: Chemistry, Physical Science, or Physics)	3 credits (Earth/Space Science* and Biology 1, and one course from the following: Chemistry, Physical Science, or Physics)	3 credits (Earth/Space Science* and Biology 1, and one course from the following: Chemistry, Physical Science, or Physics)
SOCIAL SCIENCE	3 credits (1 credit World History, 1 credit United States History, 0.5 credit United States Government, and 0.5 credit Economics)	3 credits (1 credit World History, 1 credit United States History, 0.5 credit United States Government, and 0.5 credit Economics)	3 credits (1 credit World History, 1 credit United States History, 0.5 credit United States Government, and 0.5 credit Economics)
WORLD LANGUAGES	Not required (foreign language credit is required for admission to state universities)	2 credits in the same language or demonstrated proficiency in a second language	Not required
PERFORMING/ FINE ARTS OR PRACTICAL ARTS	1 credit in performing/ fine arts, speech and debate, or practical arts (eligible courses are listed in the Course Code Directory)	Not required	Not required
PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ HEALTH	1 credit (0.5 personal fitness 0.5 physical education elective)	Not required	Not required
ELECTIVES	8 credits	2 credits	3 credits in a single career/ technical education program and 1 elective credit; or 3 credits in a single career/technical certificate dual enrollment and 1 elective credit; or 4 credits in career/ technical education (including 3 credits in one sequential

			career/technical education program)
GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)	Cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale	Cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the required courses and a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at least 3.0 points or the equivalent in each of the 18 required credits	Cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the required courses and a weighted or unweighted grade that earns at least 2.0 points or the equivalent in each of the 18 required credits
MINIMUM GRADE TO EARN COURSE CREDIT	D	B (weighted or unweighted)	C (weighted or unweighted)
ANTICIPATED TIME TO COMPLETION	4 years	3 years	3 years
TESTING	Students must earn a passing score on the FCAT 2.0 Reading graduation test and applicable EOC test(s).	Students must earn a passing score on the FCAT 2.0 Reading graduation test and applicable EOC test(s).	Students must earn a passing score on the FCAT 2.0 Reading graduation test and applicable EOC test(s).
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Required (see Explanatory Notes chart)	Not required	Not required
DIGITAL LEARNING	Within the 24 credits, at least one online course is required	Within the 18 credits, at least one online course is required	Within the 18 credits, at least one online course is required

* The sequence of science courses for grade 9 and grade 8 Honors may change beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. Information will be provided to schools as soon as it is available.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS	English 1, 2, 3, and 4 or English 1-4 Through ESOL are required to meet the English/Language Arts graduation requirement. This requirement applies to all three graduation options. It should be noted that grade 9 and 10 students who scored at Levels 1 and 2 on the most recent administration of the FCAT 2.0 Reading test, as well as grade 11 and 12 retakers, will be required to take an Intensive Reading course in lieu of an elective and in addition to the required English course. ELLs scoring at Levels 1 and 2 on the most recent administration of FCAT 2.0 Reading are to be enrolled in a Developmental Language Arts Through ESOL course will count as elective credit and it is taken in lieu of an Intensive Reading course. ELLs in grades 10-12 who are FCAT retakers and obtain a passing score in the FCAT 2.0 Reading test are not required to take the Developmental Language Arts Through ESOL course. The District's K-12 CRRP requires each school to conduct a screening and diagnostic procedure to identify appropriate placement of Level 1 and Level 2 students in reading classes to be completed prior to the end of the school year. The K-12 CRRP also requires a daily double block for all students who have reading deficiencies in decoding and fluency (Intensive Reading Plus).
MATHEMATICS	For the 24 credit option for students who entered 9 th grade prior to 2007-2008, 3 credits of mathematics are required to graduate; for students who entered 9 th grade in 2007-2008 and thereafter, 4 credits of mathematics are required to graduate. For the 18 credit option, students must earn 4 credits. A four-year sequence includes Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Advanced Topics in Mathematics. Students earning two of the required credits for graduation in middle school may be required by the high school principal to take a minimum of 3 credits in high school. Business Math, Liberal Arts Math, and Consumer Math meet the high school graduation requirement, but do not meet the minimum entrance requirements for either the Florida University System, or the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Award. For students who entered

	grade 9 in 2010-2011, Algebra 1 and Geometry are required graduation courses. For students entering grade 9 in 2010-2013, Algebra 2 will be a graduation requirement no matter the graduation option chosen. Students will be required to earn 4 mathematics credits in order to graduate.
SCIENCE*	<p>For students selecting any one of the three graduation options, 3 credits are required. The three-year recommended sequence includes: Earth/Space Science*, Biology 1, and one course from the following: Chemistry, Physical Science, or Physics. For students entering grade 9 in 2011-2012, Biology 1 will be a graduation requirement, including Biology 1 EOC requirement. For students entering grade 9 in 2013-2014, either Chemistry or Physics or an equally rigorous science course will be required for graduation.</p> <p>* The sequence of science courses for grade 9 and grade 8 Honors may change beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. Information will be provided to schools as soon as it is available.</p>
SOCIAL SCIENCE	Regardless of the date of entry into grade 9, or graduation option chosen, the required courses include: World History – 1 credit, United States History – 1 credit, United States Government – 0.5 credit, and Economics – 0.5 credit.
PERFORMING/FINE ARTS/PRACTICAL ARTS/CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION	Students in the 24 credit option who entered 9 th grade prior to 2007-2008, are to earn 0.5 credit in performing/fine arts (art, dance, theatre, music, speech, or debate) and 0.5 credit in practical arts (any career/technical education course, a district-approved annual computer or journalism course). It should be noted that State statute provides for three methods by which high school students enrolled in the four-year, 24-credit, standard program can meet the Performing Fine Arts/Practical Arts graduation requirement. M-DCPS students are to earn 0.5 credit in Performing Fine Arts and 0.5 credit in Practical Arts. However, students transferring to M-DCPS from another Florida school district can meet the Performing Fine Arts and Practical Arts graduation requirement if they have met one of the other two methods provided in State statute, i.e., 1.0 credit in Performing Fine Arts or 1.0 credit in Practical Arts. Students in the 24 credit option who entered 9 th grade in 2007-2008 and thereafter, must earn 1 credit in performing/fine arts or an approved practical art (see details in Graduation Options chart above). Students enrolled in the college preparatory program or the career preparatory program need not meet any requirement in this area. Completion of two years in a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (J.R.O.T.C.) class, a significant component of which is drill, will satisfy the one-credit requirement in Performing Arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Students in the 24 credit option who entered 9 th grade prior to 2007-2008, meet this requirement by successful completion of Personal Fitness or Adaptive Physical Education, or any other approved physical education semester course. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level, for two full seasons, and obtaining a passing score of C or higher on a competency test on personal fitness will satisfy the one credit physical education requirement. If the student satisfies the physical education graduation requirement through the interscholastic sport option, the student must earn one additional elective credit, since no credit is granted for an interscholastic junior or senior varsity sport. Completion of one semester with a grade of “C” or better in a marching band class, in a physical activity class that requires participation in marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (J.R.O.T.C.) class with a significant component of drills, will satisfy the one-half physical education elective requirement. The student must still complete the Personal Fitness or the Adaptive Physical Education course. For students who entered 9 th grade in 2007-2008 and thereafter, this requirement is met by successful completion of Personal Fitness or Adaptive Physical Education and any other approved physical education semester course. Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons will satisfy the one credit physical education requirement if the student passes a competency test on personal fitness with a score of “C” or higher. If

	<p>the student satisfies the physical education graduation requirement through the interscholastic sport option, the student must earn one additional elective credit since no credit is granted for an interscholastic junior or senior varsity sport. Completion of one semester with a grade of “C” or higher in a marching band class, in a physical activity class that requires participation in marching band activities as an extracurricular activity, or in a dance class will satisfy one-half credit in physical education or one-half credit in Performing/Fine Arts. Students must still successfully complete the Personal Fitness course or the Adaptive Physical Education course. Completion of two years of a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (J.R.O.T.C.) class with a significant component in drill and taking the one-half credit Personal Fitness course or, if appropriate, the Adaptive Physical Education course will satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement in Performing Fine Arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an individual education plan (IEP) or 504 plan. Students who entered 9th grade prior to 2007-2008 must earn 0.5 credit in Life Management Skills. Students enrolled in either of the two 18 credit options are not required to take physical education.</p>
ELECTIVES	<p>For students in the 24 credit option who entered 9th grade in 2006-2007, 8.5 elective credits are required. Students in the 18 credit college preparatory program, 3 elective credits are required. Students in the 18 credit career preparatory program, 2 elective credits are required, unless they select the 5 credits option in career/technical education (CTE). Students in the 24 credit option who entered 9th grade in 2007-2008 through 2008-2009, 8 elective credits are required in sequential courses in a CTE program. Students in the 18 credit college preparatory program, 2 elective credits are required. Students in the 18 credit career preparatory program, 3 credits in a single vocational/career education program and 2 credits in electives or 3 credits in single CTE certificate dual enrollment and 2 credits in electives are required, or 5 credits in vocational/career education (including 3 credits in one sequential career and technical program). Students entering 9th grade in 2010-2011 through 2013-2014 in the 24 credit option, 8 elective credits are required in sequential courses in a CTE program. Students in the 18 credit college preparatory program 2 elective credits are required. Students in the 18 credit career preparatory program, 3 credits in a single vocational/career education program and 1 elective credit or 3 credits in single CTE certificate dual enrollment and 1 elective credit, or 4 credits in vocational/career education (including 3 credits in one sequential career and technical education program). For students enrolled in the College Preparatory program, at least 6 of the 18 credits must be completed in courses that include dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Advanced International Certificate of Education, or are specifically listed as rigorous by the Florida Department of Education. Honors courses are not included in these 6 credits.</p>
COMMUNITY SERVICE	<p>For students in the 24 credit option, the completion of a community service project is an additional graduation requirement regardless of their date of entry into 9th grade. Students in either one of the 18 credit options are not required to complete a community service project. However, one of the requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program’s Academic Scholars Award is 100 hours of community service, 75 hours for the Medallion Scholars Award, and 30 hours for the Gold Seal Vocational Award.</p>
DIGITAL LEARNING	<p>Beginning with students who entered grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year and thereafter, at least one online course must be taken in order to graduate. This requirement shall be met through an online course offered by the high school, the Florida Virtual School, or an online dual enrollment course. The requirement may also be met if the student takes an online course in grades 6 through 8.</p>