

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Education desires that its standards for graduation meet the minimum standards of the Ohio Department of Education, as well as those of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and that our high school will compare favorably with high schools recognized for excellence in the state.

The Minimum Requirements For Graduation From Fairfield High School Are As Follows:

English	4 credits
Social Studies (World, US and Govt)	3 credits
Math	3 credits
Science (1 Biological, 1 Physical)	3 credits
Health	1/2 credit
**Physical Education	1/2 credit
Fine Arts or Business or Foreign Language	1 credit
“Career Pathways” careers class	1/2 credit
Electives	8-1/2 credits
Total:	24 credits

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, students in the Fairfield City School District in grades 9, 10, and 11 who successfully complete two full seasons of **interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading may be excused from the high school physical education requirement. The “two full season” requirement may be completed within a single school year. The “two full season” requirement must be completed by the end of the student’s junior year to eliminate the possibility of seniors being caught in a position of lacking physical education requirements and failing to graduate. *A single exception was made to this expectation for seniors during the 2009/2010 school year as the district transitioned to the new policy.

Under the ORC, the board of education may NOT provide for partial completion of the high school physical education requirement. The one-half unit requirement cannot be partially exempted. For example, it is not possible to combine one quarter of physical education and one successful season to meet the physical education requirement.

Those students excused from the high school physical education requirement are required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction, in another course of study, as determined by the student.

Those students excused from the high school physical education requirement are still required to earn 24 credits for graduation from the Fairfield City School District

In addition, all students must meet the state standardized test requirements unless exempted by an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Students will be required to pass all of the Ohio Graduation Tests in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies to graduate from high school. Students will have up to seven opportunities, including summer school, to retake failed sections of the OGT.

Summer school credits will be accepted toward graduation, provided that counselor or administrator approval has been given prior to registration for the course.

The District will accept credits earned toward graduation only from schools chartered by the Ohio Department of Education.

The Board assumes that at the time of graduation each student will have fulfilled all academic and financial obligations. A good school record, scholastically and otherwise, is the best recommendation an applicant can offer either for college admission or for a job. A record of good personal behavior and cooperation will be expected.

Students must attend through seven terms. A term is 18 weeks in length. Seniors may graduate early at the end of the seventh term if they have met all graduation requirements and submit the appropriate paperwork. Counselors have information about early graduation procedures.

RECOMMENDED CURRICULUM FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS

(All courses must be College Preparatory)

- • 4 credits of English
- • 4 credits of Math (minimum of Algebra I, II and Geometry)
- • 3 credits of Social Studies (World Studies, American Studies, American Government)
- • 4 credits of Science (minimum of Biology, Chemistry and one other science class with lab)
- • 3 credits of Foreign Language (minimum of 3 years of the same language or 2 each of 2 languages)
- • 1 credit of Fine Arts
- • 1/2 credit of Health
- • 1/2 credit of Physical Education

STATE OF OHIO DIPLOMA WITH HONORS CLASS OF 2011 AND LATER

All courses must be College Preparatory.
Students need to fulfill only 7 of the following 8 criteria.

- 4 credits of English
- 4 credits of Math (including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content)
- 4 credits of Science (including Physics and Chemistry)
- 4 credits of Social Studies
- 3 credits of Foreign Language (or 2 units in 2 different languages)
- 1 credit of Fine Arts
- Maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Obtain a composite score of 27 on the ACT, or 1210 combined score on the SAT

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETES

In order for students to be eligible to participate in athletics, a student needs to pass three classes each nine weeks, only one of which can be a physical education course.

ATTENTION ATHLETES: to participate in Division I or II athletics in college, the NCAA Clearinghouse requires a strong college prep core curriculum with minimum GPA and test score combinations. Requirements are available at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. If a student intends on participating in college athletics, it is his/her responsibility to consult yearly with the counselor to make sure they are enrolled in the appropriate courses.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

PSAT/NMSQT www.collegeboard.com
(Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)

This is a practice test for the SAT which is also used to determine National Merit semi-finalists. It is given once each year in October, primarily to Juniors, but is open to any college bound student. The testing date will be Saturday, October 15, 2010. The test is administered at the high school.

SAT Reasoning Test www.collegeboard.com
(Scholastic Assessment Test)

The SAT is generally taken during the Junior and/or Senior year. Students receive a Verbal, Math and Writing score. This test is open to any college bound student. The test is offered approximately six times during the academic school year.

SAT Subject Tests www.collegeboard.com
(Scholastic Assessment Test: Subject Tests)

These are one hour tests which measure a student's knowledge of specific subjects and his/her ability to apply that knowledge. Certain colleges require this test. Check with the college you plan to attend. The test is offered several times during the academic school year. Students can take up to 3 tests at one sitting.

ACT www.actstudent.org
(American College Test)

The ACT is generally taken during the Junior and/or Senior year. Students receive scores in English, Reading, Math, Science and Writing as well as a Composite score. This test is open to any college bound student. The test is offered approximately six times during the academic school year.