

High School Graduation Requirements

Minimum Credits Required for Graduation—26		
English	4	1 credit in <i>English 9</i> 1 credit in <i>English 10</i> 1 credit in <i>English 11</i> 1 credit in <i>English 12</i>
Social Studies	3	1 credit in <i>History of the United States</i> 1 credit in <i>World History</i> 1 credit in <i>United States Government</i>
Mathematics	4*	1 credit in <i>Algebra 1</i> 1 credit in <i>Geometry</i> 2 mathematics elective credits (* <i>Algebra 2</i> for college completers)
Science	3+	1 credit in <i>Biology</i> 2 credits, including laboratory experience, in any or all of the following areas: • <i>Earth Science</i> • <i>Life Science</i> • <i>Physical Science</i>
Physical Education	1	0.5 credit of <i>Fitness for Life</i> 0.5 credit Physical Education Elective
Health	0.5	0.5 credit in Health Education
Basic Technology	1	<i>Foundations of Technology A</i> (0.5 credit) and <i>Foundations of Technology B</i> (0.5 credit) or one of the following one credit courses available at Project Lead the Way schools only: <i>Honors Principles of Engineering</i> or <i>Honors Engineering Design</i>
Fine Arts	1	Music, Art, Dance, and Theatre Arts courses
Electives	8.5	Any electives that result in the successful completion of a Completer Program Pathway
Students who entered high school in 2014–15 or later are required to take a rigorous math course each of the four years the student is enrolled.		
Students must attend high school for four years unless a pre-approved AACPS alternative is satisfied.		
Students must choose and follow course selection for a Completer Program Pathway (<i>College Completer, Career Completer, or Dual Completer</i>).		
* Students seeking admission to a University System of Maryland institution should review details of math elective requirements with a school counselor		
+Magnet, and Signature programs may require 3, 4, or 5 credits of Science and of World and Classical Language.		

State-Mandated Assessments

Students are required to pass the High School Assessments (HSA) in Biology and US Government, and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments in Algebra 1 and English 10. All four assessments are given at the completion of the corresponding course. Please check with your school counselor to discuss possible options to meet these assessment requirements.

World and Classical Language Requirement

Students may elect to take two credits of a world and classical language rather than two credits of an advanced technology or a career completer program. A student with the required math courses and two credits of a World and Classical Language meets one of the criteria for qualifying the student for the University System of Maryland. It is recommended that students who elect the World and Classical Language option continue in the program beyond the second level. Some specialized programs, as well as many colleges and universities, require additional credits in world and classical language. Check with your school counselor for details.

Advanced Technology Requirement

Students may elect to take two credits of advanced technology rather than two credits of World and Classical Language or a career completer program. A student with the required math courses and two credits of advanced technology will qualify as a University System of Maryland Completer. The student, however, must verify the admissions requirements for each University System of Maryland institution to determine if the advanced technology courses meet the institution's admission requirements.

Service Learning Requirement

MSDE requires students to complete 75 hours of Service Learning for graduation. Anne Arundel County Public Schools integrates this requirement into existing subjects or courses starting in grade 5. Students complete service-learning projects and activities from grades 5 through 11 so that each student, upon completion of grade 11, should have met the service learning graduation requirement.