

# Kentucky high school graduation requirements

	Minimum High School Graduation Requirements (Through Class of 2011)		Minimum High School Graduation Requirements (Beginning with Class of 2012)	
SUBJECT	CREDITS	COURSES	CREDITS	COURSES
Language Arts	4	English I, II, III, IV	4	English I, II, III, IV (To include the content strands of reading, writing, speaking, listening, observing, inquiry, conventions, analysis, and using technology as a communication tool. Language arts shall be taken each year of high school.)
Social Studies	3	Credits to incorporate <b>U.S. History, Economics, Government, World Geography, and World Civilization</b>	3	Credits to include the content strands of historical perspective, including <b>U.S. History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics, and Cultures and Societies.</b>
Mathematics	3	<b>Algebra I, Geometry, and one elective</b>	3	<b>Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II</b> (An integrated, applied, interdisciplinary or technical/occupational course that prepares a student for a career path based on the student's Individual Learning Plan may be substituted for a traditional Algebra I, Geometry or Algebra II course on an individual student basis if the course meets the content standards in the program of studies. Pre-Algebra shall not be counted as one of the three required Mathematics credits for high school graduation but may be counted as an elective.) Mathematics shall be taken each year of high school.
Science	3	Credits to include <b>Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth and Space Science</b> as provided in the Program of Studies	3	Credits shall incorporate <b>lab-based scientific investigation experiences and include the content strands of biological science, physical science, earth and space science, and unifying concepts.</b>
Health	1/2		1/2	Credit to include the content strands of <b>individual well-being, consumer decision, personal wellness, mental wellness, and community services.</b>
Physical Education	1/2		1/2	Credit to include the content strands of <b>personal wellness, psychomotor, and lifetime activity.</b>
Visual and Performing Arts	1	<b>History and appreciation of visual and performing arts or a performing arts course</b> which incorporates such content	1	<b>History and appreciation of visual and performing arts or a performing arts course</b> which incorporates such content (Credit to include the content strands of <b>arts, dance, music, theatre, and visual arts or a standards-based specialized arts course</b> based on the student's Individual Learning Plan.)
Foreign Language	0		0	
Electives	7		7	<b>Academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences (to include four (4) standards-based learning experiences in an academic or career interest based on the student's Individual Learning Plan; and Demonstrated performance based competency in technology.)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>		<b>22</b>	

**Above:** The minimum requirements for high school graduation in Kentucky.

**At right:** Requirements for the Pre-College Curriculum diploma, which is the minimum requirement for admission into bachelor's degree programs at Kentucky's public universities.

**At far right:** Requirements for the Commonwealth Diploma. This is Kentucky's most challenging high school diploma and requires Advanced Placement courses.

	Pre-College Curriculum Requirements		Commonwealth Diploma Requirements	
SUBJECT	CREDITS	COURSES	CREDITS	COURSES
Language Arts	4	English I, II, III, IV (or AP English)	4	English I, II, III, IV and AP English
Social Studies	3	Same as High School	3	Same as High School
Mathematics	3	Algebra I, II and Geometry	3	Algebra I, II and Geometry and one AP Mathematics or AP Science
Science	3	Same as High School plus at least one lab course	3	Three credits to include <b>Biology I or Chemistry I or Physics I and one elective and one AP Mathematics or AP Science</b>
Health	1/2		1/2	Same as High School
Physical Education	1/2		1/2	Same as High School
Visual and Performing Arts	1	Same as High School	1	Same as High School
Foreign Language	2	Credits required or demonstrated competency (effective fall 2004)		<b>One AP Course selected from Spanish, German, Latin or French</b> (taking AP exam requires 4 units of French, German or Spanish and 3 units of Latin)
Electives	5	3 rigorous; one or more courses that develop computer literacy strongly recommended		Same as High School
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	17 required; 5 elective		Successful completion of at least 22 approved units of credit, including all the Pre-college Curriculum Requirements  Successful completion of at least four AP courses with a grade of C or better. Completion of AP exams in at least three of four AP courses.

## Questions/Comments?

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