

Graduation Requirements

Ohio's schools are making strides, yet every year about 40 percent of Ohio high school graduates who attend Ohio public colleges need to take remedial courses. Ohio must make sure our students are better prepared.

In a continually changing global economy, colleges and businesses expect more knowledge and skills from Ohio graduates. To match these high expectations, Ohio must ensure that all students leave high school ready to succeed.

Ohio school law updated Ohio's graduation requirements to ensure that all students are ready for success in college and work. As a result, students graduating before the class of 2018 (11th graders in the 2015-2016 school year) are the last students to take the current Ohio Graduation Tests. Students who entered ninth grade in the 2014-2015 school year and beyond will have multiple ways to earn a high school diploma in Ohio.

What are the curriculum requirements?

Students in the classes of 2018 and beyond must take and earn a state minimum of 20 credits in specific subjects. School districts may require more than 20 credits. Additionally, students must receive instruction in two areas – fine arts and economics and financial literacy. The class of 2020 must have one credit in world history.

What are the options for graduation?

Ohio's State Tests – Students take seven end-of-course exams over four years of high school—English 1 and 2, geometry, algebra I, biology, American history and American government. They need to earn 18 points with scores from the tests to be eligible for graduation. The tests can take the place of final exams.

Industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and **readiness score** on WorkKeys, a nationally recognized job skills assessment. Students need to earn 12 points with one more credentials. The State Board of Education will select the readiness score in fall 2015.

College Admission Test - Students earn scores in English language arts and mathematics on a national college admissions test or tests that indicate they can do college-level work without needing to take remedial classes. The state will identify the test or tests and scores by January 2016.

For more information visit:
<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/News/New-High-School-Graduation-Requirements>