What It Takes to Earn an Ohio Diploma

Graduating Classes through 2013

There are testing requirements and curriculum requirements connected with the Ohio diploma; students must meet both requirements in order to earn an Ohio diploma. See the two checklists below for more information about these two diploma requirements. The third section provides information about the Alternative Pathway for Eligibility for a Diploma.

Curriculum Requirements

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS	STATE MINIMUM	ADDITIONAL LOCAL CREDITS	CREDITS EARNED TO DATE	CREDITS REMAINING	HONORS DIPLOMA CREDITS
English language arts	4 units	_____	_____	_____	_____
Health	½ unit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mathematics	3 units	_____	_____	_____	_____
Physical education	½ unit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Science	3 units*	_____	_____	_____	_____
Social studies	3 units**	_____	_____	_____	_____
Electives	6 units***	_____	_____	_____	_____

* Science units must include 1 unit of biological sciences and 1 unit of physical sciences.
** Social Studies units must include ½ unit of American history and ½ unit of American government.
*** Electives units must include 1 unit or 2 half units in Business, Technology, Fine Arts or Foreign language.

Graduation Test Requirements

For Students Who Need to Pass the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT):

A. Notify student and parents about:
- Importance of earning a diploma;
- Need to meet both testing and curriculum requirements to earn a diploma;
- Any additional local graduation requirements;
- District's policy about participation in commencement ceremony.

B. How to access information (e.g., test blueprints, previous tests) on the Web about OGT:
- www.ode.state.oh.us and search keyword: ***OGT***.

C. OGT test administrations before graduation:
- Spring of 10th grade
- Summer between 10th and 11th grade (optional)
- Fall and spring of 11th grade
- Summer between 11th and 12th grade (optional)
- Fall and spring of 12th grade

D. How to access previous graduation tests:
- OGT Reading, Mathematics, Writing, Science and Social Studies
- www.ode.state.oh.us and search keywords: ***released test materials***

Alternative Pathway for Eligibility for a Diploma

Located below are Criteria for Alternative Pathway to Graduation and the GPA Calculation Chart:

1. On the one [OGT]...for which the person failed to attain the designated score, the person missed that score by 10 points or less;

   Note: This means a scaled score of at least 390 on the failed OGT.

2. Has a 97 percent school attendance rate in each of the last four school years, excluding any excused absences;

   Note: Excused absences are defined by local school district policy.

3. Has not been expelled from school...in any of the last four school years;

   Note: The statute does not address other student disciplinary outcomes, such as suspension.

4. Has a grade point average of at least 2.5 out of 4.0, or its equivalent, as designated in rules adopted by the State Board of Education in the subject area of the [failed OGT];

   Note: The conversion chart found below must be used.

5. Has completed the [state] high school curriculum requirements...in the subject area [of the failed test];

   Note: This applies to a student's eligibility to be considered for an alternative pathway only. To receive a diploma, the student also must satisfy school district graduation requirements.

6. Has taken advantage of any intervention programs provided by the school district or school in the subject area [of the failed OGT]...and has a 97 percent attendance rate, excluding any excused absences, in any of those programs that are provided at times beyond the normal school day, school week, or school year or has received comparable intervention services from a source other than the school district or school;

   Note: Students are only subject to this criterion if they were offered intervention. If so, the attendance requirement refers to their rate of participation.

7. Holds a letter recommending graduation from each of the person's high school teachers in the subject area [of the failed OGT]...and from the person's high school principal.

   Note: If the student's teacher from a specific course is no longer available, a person with sufficient knowledge to make an informed recommendation may substitute.

The following scale has been adopted by the State Board of Education for use in calculating a student's grade point average. Conversions from the school district's grading scale to the scale which must be used is found below.

GPA Calculation Chart

A+, A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D+	1.3
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.7	D-	0.7
C+	2.3	F	0.0