

What It Takes to Earn an Ohio Diploma Class of 2007 and beyond

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 an alternative way to meet the testing requirements.

I. Curriculum Requirements

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

II. Graduation Tests Requirements

For Students Who Need to Pass the Ohio Graduation Tests (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 (test blueprints, previous tests) on the web about OGT:
 - http://www.ode.state.oh.us and enter OGT in the search box

Source: Ohio Department of Education, Office of Assessment, August 2006.

- 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
 - Graduation
- D) How to access previous graduation tests:
 - OGT Reading and Mathematics
 - http://www.ode.state.oh.us and enter *previous OGT tests* in the search box

III. Alternative Way to Meet the Testing Requirements

A student may meet the testing requirements for passing all five Ohio Graduation Tests if he/she meets **ALL** of the following criteria:

- Passes 4 of the five tests and has missed passing the 5th test by no more than 10 points;
- Has a 97 % attendance rate, excluding any excused absences, through all four years of high school and must not have had an expulsion in high school;
- Has at least a grade point average of 2.5 out of 4.0 in the courses of the subject area not yet passed;
- Has completed the high school curriculum requirement;
- Has participated in any intervention programs offered by the school and must have had a 97 % attendance rate in any programs offered outside the normal school day; and
- Has letters recommending graduation from the high school principal and from each high school teacher in the subject area not yet passed.

NOTE: As specified in the Ohio Revised Code (Section 3313.615), this alternate way to meet the testing requirement only applies to students graduating after September 15, 2006.

Source: Ohio Department of Education, Office of Assessment, August 2006.