

## Earning a High School Diploma Classes of 2018 and Beyond

- There is no one-size-fits-all way to graduate. Ohio and Columbus City Schools gives you several options to qualify for a high school diploma. Choose the way that works best for you!
- To earn a high school Diploma of Graduation from Columbus City Schools, you must successfully complete courses and meet at least one of the options below to show that you are ready for college or a career.
- You are also encouraged and may choose to pursue a diploma or certification type above and beyond the Diploma of Graduation. Those options and criteria are listed on the back of this page.
- Your school counselor will give you more details and help you plan your college/career pathways.

### Diploma of Graduation\*

**Students must successfully earn required credits AND meet at least one state college and career readiness option below.**

#### Columbus City Schools Credit Requirements

English Language Arts	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Academic Elective (Science or Social Studies)	1 credit
Physical Education	.5 credit
Health	.5 credit
Fine Arts	1 credit
Technology	1 credit
General Electives	3 credits
Internship (120 hours)	1 credit

**AND**

#### College and Career Readiness Requirements

##### **Ohio's State Tests**

Earn at least 18 points on seven end-of-course state tests. End-of-course tests are:

<b>Algebra I or Integrated Math I</b>	<b>English I</b>
<b>Geometry or Integrated Math II</b>	<b>English II</b>
<b>American Government</b>	<b>Biology</b>
<b>American History</b>	

Each test score earns you up to five graduation points. You must have a minimum of four points in math, four points in English and six points across science and social studies. Your school and district receive grades on the Ohio School Report Cards for all students' scores *and participation* on state tests.

**OR**

##### **Industry credential and workforce readiness**

Earn a minimum of 12 points by receiving a State Board of Education-approved, industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and earn a 13 on WorkKeys, a work-readiness test. The state of Ohio will pay one time for you to take the WorkKeys test.

**OR**

##### **College and career readiness tests**

Earn the "remediation-free" scores\* on either:

<b>ACT</b>	<b>SAT</b>
English - 18 or higher	Writing - 430 or higher
Mathematics - 22 or higher	Mathematics - 520 or higher
Reading - 22 or higher	Reading - 450 or higher

Your district will choose either the ACT or SAT for all students in your district to take for free during a one-time statewide spring test in grade 11.

\*Ohio's university presidents set these scores, which are subject to change.

\*In addition to the options above, students are highly encouraged and have the choice to pursue more rigorous diplomas and certifications. See reverse page and sample graduation planners for details.

## CCS Diploma and Certification Options

**Certification of Specialization:** Awarded to students who earn **five or more credits in any one specific area of study** - academic or elective.

**Certification of College Preparatory:** Awarded to students who meet the CCS Diploma of Graduation requirements and have **two (2.0) credits in the same world language** which may replace two (2.0) General Elective credits.

**Diploma of Distinction:** Awarded to students who earn at least 24 credits, meet the CCS Diploma of Graduation requirements, and have **four (4.0) credits in Social Studies, four (4.0) credits in Science, and three (3.0) credits in the same world language** which may replace three (3.0) General Elective credits.

**Diploma with Honors:** Awarded to students who successfully meet honors diploma requirements set by the state of Ohio. There are three types of Diploma with Honors. –see ODE’s “Comparison of Diplomas with Honors Criteria” below.

### Comparison of Diplomas with Honors Criteria

*Students need to fulfill all but one of the applicable criteria for the Diploma with Honors.*

Subject	International Baccalaureate Diploma with Honors for Classes of 2012 and Beyond ***	Academic Diploma with Honors for Classes 2011 and Beyond	Career-Technical Diploma with Honors for Classes 2012 and Beyond
English	4 units, plus the two required International Baccalaureate essays	4 units	4 units
Mathematics	4 units, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or the equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content	4 units, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or the equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content	4 units, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or the equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content
Science	4 units including biology, chemistry and at least one additional advanced science ****	4 units, including physics and chemistry	<b>4 units, including two units of advanced science ****</b>
Social Studies	4 units	4 units	4 units
Foreign Language	4 units minimum, including at least 2 units in each language studied	3 units (must include no less than 2 units for which credit is sought), i.e., 3 units of one language or 2 units each of two languages	N/A
Fine Arts	1 unit	1 unit	N/A
Electives	N/A	N/A	4 units of Career-Technical minimum. Program must lead to an industry recognized credential, apprenticeship, or be part of an articulated career pathway which can lead to post secondary credit
Grade Point Average	3.5 on a 4.0 scale	3.5 on a 4.0 scale	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
ACT/SAT Score [excluding scores from the writing sections]*	27 ACT / 1210 SAT	27 ACT / 1210 SAT	27 ACT / 1210 SAT
Additional Assessment	Must complete criterion-referenced assessments in a minimum of six academic disciplines	N/A	Achieve proficiency benchmark established for appropriate Ohio Career-Technical Competency Assessment or equivalent

\*\*\* The International Baccalaureate track to the Honors Diploma requires full completion of all requirements for an IB Diploma Programme including the Theory of Knowledge Course in meta-cognition, the Extended Essay project and the 150 hour Creativity, Action and Service (Service-Learning) requirement. Note: The International Baccalaureate Certificate Program does not qualify for this track to the Diploma with Honors.

\*\*\*\* Advanced science refers to courses in the Ohio Core that are inquiry-based with laboratory experiences and align with the 11/12<sup>th</sup> grade standards (or above) or with an AP science course, or with the new high school syllabi, or with an entry-level college course (clearly preparing students for a college freshman-level science class, such as anatomy, botany, or astronomy), or contain material above the current OGT level.