



*Experience the difference in learning!
A2O is to the brain, what H₂O is to the body!*

FURTHER GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To provide high school students with the knowledge and skills to succeed in their post-secondary and career pursuits, Louisiana has adopted graduation requirements and options to meet today's college and workplace demands. The menu and charts below outline the state's two diploma pathways, as well as options for earning specific endorsements. The chart below represents a brief summary of the graduation requirements. The complete policy can be found in §2318 and §2319 of Bulletin 741.

By the end of the eighth grade, students should start developing their Individual Graduation Plan (IGP). This plan is aimed at helping students explore the educational and career possibilities that are available to them. IGPs are required for all students as a result of legislation passed during the 2009 Legislative session.

Also in 2009, state policymakers passed legislation to create an alternative Career Diploma, with the goal of improving Louisiana's graduation rate and providing students with career and technical training to enter the workplace after high school. The Career Diploma was implemented in the 2009-2010 school year.

Basic Core Curriculum (Incoming Freshmen 2008-2009 and beyond)

English - 4 Units

- English I, II, III, IV or Senior Applications in English

Math - 4 Units

- Algebra I (1 unit), Applied Algebra I (1 unit) or Algebra I-Pt. 1 and Algebra I-Pt. 2 (2 units)
- Geometry or Applied Geometry
- Remaining unit(s) from the following: Algebra II, Financial Mathematics, Math Essentials, Advanced Math—Pre-Calculus, Advanced Math—Functions and Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, or a local math elective approved by BESE

Science - 3 Units

- Biology
- 1 unit from the following Physical Science cluster: Physical Science, Integrated Science, Chemistry I, Physics I, Physics of Technology I
- 1 unit from the following: Aerospace Science, Biology II, Chemistry II, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physics II, Physics of Technology II, Agri-Science II, Anatomy and Physiology, an additional course from the physical science cluster, or a local science elective approved by BESE
- Students may not take both Integrated Science and Physical Science
- Agri-Science I is a prerequisite for Agri-Science II and is an elective course

Social Studies - 3 Units

- Civics (1 unit) or 1/2 unit of Civics and 1/2 unit of Free Enterprise. Note: Students entering the ninth grade in 2011-2012 and beyond must have one unit of Civics
- U.S. History
- One of the following: World History, World Geography, Western Civilization, or AP European History

Health - 1/2 Unit

- JROTC I and II may be used to meet the Health Education requirement provided the requirements in Section 2347 of Bulletin 741 are met.

Physical Education - 1 1/2 Units

- Physical Education I and Physical Education II, or Adapted Physical Education for eligible special education students. A maximum of 4 units of Physical Education may be used toward graduation
- NOTE: The substitution of JROTC is permissible

Education for Careers or Journey to Careers* - 1 Unit

Electives - 7 Units

Shall include the minimum courses required to complete a Career Area of Concentration,* including Education for Careers or Journey to Careers *Take effect for incoming freshmen in 2010-2011 and beyond

Total - 24 Units



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LA Core 4 Curriculum (Incoming Freshmen in 2008-2009 and beyond)

English - 4 Units

- English I, II, III, IV

Math - 4 Units

- Algebra I, Applied Algebra I, or Algebra I-Pt. 2
- Geometry or Applied Geometry
- Algebra II
- Remaining unit from the following: Financial Math, Math Essentials, Advanced Math/Precalculus, Advanced Math-Functions and Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Math, or a local math elective approved by BESE

Science - 4 Units

- Biology
- Chemistry
- 2 units of the following: Physical Science, Integrated Science, Physics I, Physics of Technology I, Aerospace Science, Biology II, Chemistry II, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physics II, Physics of Technology II, Agriscience II, Anatomy and Physiology, or a local science elective approved by BESE*
- Students may not take both Integrated Science and Physical Science
- Agriscience I is a prerequisite for Agriscience II

Social Studies - 4 Units

- Civics (1 unit) or 1/2 unit of Civics and 1/2 unit of Free Enterprise. Note: Students entering the ninth grade in 2011-2012 and beyond must have one unit of Civics
- U.S. History
- 1 unit from the following: World History, World Geography, Western Civilization, or AP European History
- 1 unit from the following: World History, World Geography, Western Civilization, AP European History, Civics (second semester - 1/2 credit), Law Studies, Psychology, Sociology, or African-American Studies*

NOTE: Students may take 2 half credit courses for the fourth social studies unit.

Health - 1/2 Unit

- JROTC I and II may be used to meet the Health Education requirement provided the requirements in Section 2347 of Bulletin 741 are met.

Physical Education - 1 1/2 Units

- Physical Education I and Physical Education II, or Adapted Physical Education for eligible special education students. A maximum of 4 units of Physical Education may be used toward graduation
- NOTE: The substitution of JROTC is permissible

Foreign Language - 2 Units

- 2 units from the same foreign language or 2 units of speech

Arts - 1 Unit

- 1 unit of Arts (§2333), Dance (§2337), Media (§2354), Music (§2355), Theatre Arts (§2369) or Fine Arts Survey. *

Electives - 3 Units

Total - 24 Units

*Approved IBC-related course may be substituted for the 4th science or social studies or for the art course if the course is in the student's career area of concentration. (for Core 4 students only)

AP: Advanced Placement

BESE: Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

ELA: English Language Arts

GPA: Grade Point Average

IBC: Industry-Based Certification

LEA: Local Education Agency

PE: Physical Education

TOPS: Louisiana Taylor Opportunity Program for Students