

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

STANDARD DIPLOMA

Students seeking a Standard Diploma must also:

- earn a board-approved career and technical education credential to graduate with a Standard Diploma;
- successfully complete a virtual learning course. This course can be fully online or a blended online learning experience. In SCPS this requirement is included in Economics and Personal Finance curriculum in grades 10-12; and
- be trained in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillator, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. In SCPS this requirement is included in the Health and Physical Education curriculum in grades 9 and 10.

Course Area	Standard Credits: 9th Graders Beginning Fall of 2011 – Spring of 2018		Standard Credits: 9th Graders Beginning Fall of 2018 and Beyond	
	22 Credits	# of Verified	22 Credits	# of Verified
English	4	2	4	2
Mathematics ¹	3	1	3	1
Lab Science ^{2,6} – Earth Science, Biology, one additional Science course	3	1	3	1
History ^{3,6} – World History to 1500 A.D./World Geography or World History after 1500 A.D./World Geography, Virginia/United States History, and Virginia/United States Government	3	1	3	1
Health and Physical Education	2		2	
World Language, Fine and Performing Arts or Career & Technical Education ⁷	2		2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1		1	
Electives ⁴	4		4	
Student Selected Test ⁵		1		
TOTAL	22	6	22	5

¹Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two different course selections from among: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra, Functions and Data Analysis; Algebra II or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

²Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least two different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include US and Virginia History, US and Virginia Government, and one course in either world history or geography or both. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

⁴Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.

⁵Students may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career and technical education, economics or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.

⁶Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for (1) the student selected verified credit and (2) either a science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the Board of Education as an additional test to verify student achievement.

⁷Pursuant to Section 22.1-253.13:4, *Code of Virginia*, credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or career and technical education.

ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA

Students seeking an Advanced Studies Diploma must also:

- successfully complete a virtual learning course. This course can be fully online or a blended online learning experience. In SCPS this requirement is included in Economics and Personal Finance curriculum in grades 10-12; and
- be trained in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillator, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. In SCPS this requirement is included in the Health and Physical Education curriculum in grades 9 and 10.

Course Area	Advanced Studies Credits: 9th Graders Beginning Fall of 2011 – Spring of 2018		Advanced Studies Credits: 9th Graders Beginning Fall of 2018 and Beyond	
	26 Credits	# of Verified	26 Credits	# of Verified
English	4	2	4	2
Mathematics ¹	4	2	4	1
Lab Science ^{2, 6} – Four (4) courses from among three of these Lab Science areas: Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics	4	2	4	1
History ^{3, 6} – World History to 1500 A.D./World Geography, World History after 1500 A.D./World Geography, Virginia/United States History, and Virginia/United States Government	4	2	4	1
Health and Physical Education	2		2	
World Languages ⁴ (3 years of one language or 2 years each of two languages, 2+2 option)	3 (or 4)		3 (or 4)	
Economics and Personal Finance	1		1	
Electives (depending on language option)	3 (or 2)		3 (or 2)	
Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education ⁷	1		1	
Student Selected Test ⁵		1		
TOTAL	26	9	26	5

¹Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra, Functions and Data Analysis; Algebra II or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

²Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include US and Virginia History, US and Virginia Government, and one course in either world history or geography or both. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

⁴Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.

⁵Students may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career and technical education, economics or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.

⁶Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for (1) the student selected verified credit and (2) either a science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the Board of Education as an additional test to verify student achievement.

⁷Pursuant to Section 22.1-253.13:4, *Code of Virginia*, credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or career and technical education.

Preparing Your High School Plan

Below are sample four-year plans to assist with scheduling your courses. Boxes marked “Required Elective” indicate the minimum electives required for graduation. Students should consult their counselor when selecting these courses. Boxes marked “Student Choice” are those you may select for additional courses. The blank sample four-year plan is for you and your parents to prepare a customized plan to meet your educational and career objectives. The blank plan contains ten class spaces to provide for alternatives, if your first choice cannot be scheduled. Remember that you cannot sign up for your exact period-by-period schedule.

**SAMPLE STANDARD DIPLOMA FOUR-YEAR PLAN

CLASS	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
1	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
2	World History to 1500 AD/World Geography	Required Elective	VA/US History	VA/US Government
3	Earth Science	Biology	Ecology or Geology	Student Choice
4	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra, Functions and Data Analysis	Student Choice
5	Health and PE 9	Health and PE 10	Required Elective*	Required Elective *
6	Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	Required Elective	Economics & Personal Finance	Required Elective
7	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice
8	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice

*Students are required to complete a sequence of elective courses which leads to completing a career and technical program or continued education.

**Samples only—consult your counselor.

**SAMPLE ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA FOUR-YEAR PLAN

CLASS	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
1	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
2	World History to 1500 AD/World Geography	World History from 1500 AD/World Geography	VA/US History	VA/US Government
3	Earth Science	Biology	Chemistry or Physics	Upper Level Science
4	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Algebra III/Statistics
5	Health and PE 9	Health and PE 10	Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	Required Elective
6	World Language	World Language	World Language	Required Elective
7	Student Choice	Student Choice	Economics & Personal Finance	Student Choice
8	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice

**Samples only—consult your counselor.

Develop Your Own Four-Year Plan

(Select appropriate courses from the descriptions contained in this catalog.)

CLASS	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9	Alternates			
10	Alternates			