

ON TRACK FOR GRADUATION

Class of 2023

FIRST YEAR NINTH GRADE: 2019–2020 MCPS Graduation Requirements at a Glance

THE STATE OF MARYLAND AUTHORIZES 1 DIPLOMA for all high school graduates, based upon successful fulfillment of four categories of requirements: enrollment, course credit, student service learning (SSL), and Maryland assessments. Students must satisfactorily complete four years beyond Grade 8 to meet the enrollment requirement. All other requirements are summarized in the table below. Please consult the online MCPS Course Bulletin for 2019–2020 at coursebulletin.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/Home/PlanningTools or your school counselor for further information.

COURSE CREDITS

ENGLISH	4 credits		
FINE ARTS	1 credit designated (FA). Courses in art, dance, drama/theater, and music that satisfy the FA requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
HEALTH EDUCATION	0.5 credit		
MATHEMATICS	4 credits , including 1 with instruction in algebra aligned with the Maryland High School Assessment for algebra or 1 or more credits in subsequent mathematics courses for which algebra 1 is a prerequisite, and 1 with instruction in geometry aligned with the content standards for geometry. STATE REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS GRADUATING IN 2018 AND LATER: Students graduating in 2018 and later must be enrolled in a math course in each year of high school. This may result in students earning more than 4 credits in math for graduation.		
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 credit		
SCIENCE	3 Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) credits , including 1 life science credit (BC) and 1 physical science credit (PC). Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 credits , 1 U.S. History credit; 1 World History credit; and 1 National, State, and 1 Local Government credit required.		
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (TE)	1 credit designated TE. Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin. Advanced Technology (AT) courses do not satisfy the TE course requirement.		
ELECTIVES The additional credits required for graduation may be fulfilled by 1 of the following three options	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
	2 credits in a world language, which may include American Sign Language AND 2.5 credits in elective courses	2 credits in Advanced Technology education AND 2.5 credits in elective courses TE courses do not count as AT course credit.	Complete a state-approved program of study (POS) AND a minimum of 0.5 credit in elective courses or more depending on POS

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)	75 service-learning hours The SSL requirement is prorated for students enrolling in MCPS for the first time after Grade 6.
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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (MCAP) HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (HSA) REQUIREMENTS^{1,2,3}

These assessment requirements are subject to change by Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

ALGEBRA 1	Course credit earned in Algebra 1 AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the Algebra 1 assessment prior to 2019–2020, OR Take the Algebra 1 assessment in 2021–2022, OR If the Algebra 1 course was passed during 2019–2020, a COVID waiver was awarded to meet the assessment requirement. No additional test participation is required.
ENGLISH 10	Course credit earned in English 10 or equivalent, or English 10 for ELs AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the English Language Arts/Literacy 10 assessment
GOVERNMENT	Course credit earned in National, State, and Local Government or equivalent AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the Government assessment, OR If the National, State, and Local Government course was passed in 2019–2020 or 2020–2021, a COVID waiver was awarded to meet the assessment requirement. No additional test participation is required.
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment

¹ Substitute Test: Students earning qualifying scores on substitute tests (AP/IB) will meet the MCAP HSA requirement in that content area.

² Transfer Credit: Students transferring from outside Maryland public schools may be eligible to meet some MCAP HSA content-area requirements with transfer credit.

³ COVID waiver awarded in 2019–2020 or 2020–2021.