

# ON TRACK FOR GRADUATION

## Class of 2021

### FIRST YEAR NINTH GRADE: 2017–2018 MCPS Graduation Requirements at a Glance

**THE STATE OF MARYLAND AUTHORIZES ONE 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 2017–2018 at [coursebulletin.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/Home/PlanningTools](http://coursebulletin.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/Home/PlanningTools) or your school counselor for further information.

COURSE CREDITS			
ENGLISH	4 credits		
FINE ARTS	1 credit Selected course in art, dance, drama/theater, and music satisfies this requirement (FA). Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
HEALTH EDUCATION	0.5 credit		
MATHEMATICS	<p>4 credits, including 1 with instruction in algebra aligned with the Maryland High School Assessment for algebra or one or more credits in subsequent mathematics courses for which Algebra I is a prerequisite, and one with instruction in geometry aligned with the content standards for geometry.</p> <p><b>NEW STATE REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS GRADUATING IN 2018 AND LATER:</b> 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. See the Mathematics Department offerings section of the course bulletin for more detail.</p>		
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 credit		
SCIENCE	3 credits 1 biology credit (BC) and 1 physical science credit (PC) must be included. See Science Department offerings section of the course bulletin for more details.		
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 credits, 1 U.S. History credit; 1 World History credit; and 1 National, State, and Local Government credit required.		
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (TE)	1 credit designated <b>TE</b> . Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin. Advanced Technology ( <b>AT</b> ) courses do not satisfy the <b>TE</b> course requirement.		
ELECTIVES The additional credits required for graduation may be fulfilled by one of the following three options	<b>OPTION 1</b>	<b>OPTION 2</b>	<b>OPTION 3</b>
	2 credits in a world language, which may include American Sign Language <b>AND 2.5 credits</b> in elective courses	2 credits in Advanced Technology education <b>AND 2.5 credits</b> in elective courses	Complete a state-approved Program of Study <b>AND 0.5 credit</b> in elective courses
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.		
MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (MCAP) HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (HSA) REQUIREMENTS <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>			
These assessment requirements are subject to change by Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).			
ALGEBRA 1	Course credit earned in Algebra 1 <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take Algebra 1 HSA or Algebra 1 PARCC prior to 2016–2017, <b>OR</b></li> <li>Pass Algebra 1 PARCC/MCAP assessment, <b>OR</b></li> <li>Take the no-fault Algebra 1 MCAP assessment 2019–2020 or 2020–2021</li> </ul>		
ENGLISH 10	Course credit earned in English 10 or equivalent, or ESOL 3 or higher <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass English Language Arts/Literacy 10 (ELA/L 10) PARCC/MCAP assessment, <b>OR</b></li> <li>Take the no-fault English Language Arts/Literacy 10 MCAP assessment 2019–2020 or 2020–2021</li> </ul>		
GOVERNMENT	Course credit earned in National, State, and Local Government or equivalent, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass Government assessment</li> </ul>		
SCIENCE	Take the no-fault Maryland Integrated Science Assessment		

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

<sup>2</sup> Transfer Credit: Students transferring from outside MD public schools may be eligible to meet some MCAP HSA content-area requirements with Transfer Credit.

<sup>3</sup> Combined test score options are available for the assessments.

<sup>4</sup> Bridge Plan: The Bridge Plan is an alternative means of meeting the MCAP HSA graduation requirement. With the Bridge Plan, students demonstrate content mastery by completing projects when they have difficulty passing the traditional test.