

# 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 either the online MCPS Course Bulletin at <http://coursebulletin.montgomeryschoolsmd.org> or your school counselor for further information.

#### COURSE CREDITS

<b>English</b>	<b>4 credits</b>		
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>1 credit</b> —Selected course in art, dance, drama/theater, and music satisfies this requirement (FA). Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
<b>Health Education</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>		
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>4 credits</b> including 1 with instruction in algebra, aligned with the Maryland High School Assessment for algebra or more credits in subsequent mathematics courses for which Algebra I is a prerequisite, and 1 with instruction in geometry, aligned with the content standards for geometry. <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.		
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>1 credit</b>		
<b>Science</b>	<b>3 credits</b> 1 biology credit, designated BC, and 1 physical science credit, designated PC, must be included. See Science Department offerings section of the course bulletin for more details.		
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3 credits</b> —1 U.S. History credit; 1 World History credit; and 1 National, State, and Local Government credit required.		
<b>Technology Education</b>	<b>1 credit</b> designated <b>TE</b> . Advanced Technology (AT) courses do not satisfy the <b>TE</b> course requirement. Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
<b>Electives</b> 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>
	<b>2 credits</b> in a world language, which may include American Sign Language, <b>AND</b> <b>2.5 credits</b> in elective courses	<b>2 credits</b> in advanced technology education (AT) <b>AND</b> <b>2.5 credits</b> in elective courses	<b>Complete a</b> state-approved Program of Study <b>AND</b> <b>0.5 credit</b> in elective courses

#### STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)

<b>Student Service Learning (SSL)</b>	<b>75</b> service-learning hours
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#### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (MCAP HSA) REQUIREMENTS<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

The MCAP HSA requirements are subject to change by Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

<b>Algebra 1</b>	Course credit earned in Algebra 1, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take Algebra 1 PARCC <b>or</b> Algebra 1 HSA <b>prior</b> to 2016–2017, <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Pass Algebra 1 PARCC</li> </ul>
<b>HS-MISA Maryland Integrated Science Assessment</b>	3 NGSS science course, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take HS-MISA in 2018–2019 if student earns third science credit in 2018–2019, <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Pass HS-MISA after 2018–2019</li> </ul>
<b>English 10</b>	Course credit earned in English 10 <b>or</b> equivalent, <b>or</b> ESOL 3 or higher, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass English Language Arts/Literacy 10 PARCC</li> </ul>
<b>Government</b>	Course credit earned in National, State, and Local Government, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass Government HSA</li> </ul>

<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 HSAs and for the PARCC assessments.

<sup>4</sup>Bridge Plan—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.