

Graduation Requirement Update

For more information, you can visit the Ohio Department of Education's website at <http://education.ohio.gov/>

Gahanna-Jefferson Schools



December 21, 2015

New Graduation Requirements for Students Graduating in 2018 and Beyond

The Ohio Department of Education recently released modified graduation requirements that begin with the Class of 2018 (this year's 10th graders). There are two components to the new graduation requirements: **credits** and **required standards on state assessments**.

Credits

The credit component requires all students to successfully complete a **minimum of 20 high school credits** in specific subjects.

Assessments

The assessment component provides three ways to be eligible for a diploma.

- Earn a **total of 18 points through the state's end-of-course tests** (minimum of four points in Math, four points in English and six points across Science and Social Studies)
- Earn **12 points through a State Board of Education-approved industry-recognized credential** in a single career field and **achieve a workforce readiness score on the WorkKeys assessment**.
- Earn "**remediation-free**" scores in **English Language Arts and Mathematics on a nationally recognized college admission exam** such as the ACT or SAT (minimum scores outlined on ODE's website).

End-of-Course State Test Points

The points earned from the seven end-of-course state tests will be the most common way students will earn a diploma. Students can earn points based on their performance level on Ohio's State Tests in English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology (Physical Science for 10th graders), American History and American Government. A minimum of four points in Math, four points in English and six points across Science and Social Studies must be earned. The chart below outlines points earned at each performance level.

PERFORMANCE LEVEL	OHIO GRADUATION POINTS
ADVANCED	5
ACCELERATED	4
PROFICIENT	3
BASIC	2
LIMITED	1

Retesting

Under current law, students scoring a 4 or below are eligible to retake any end-of-course state test to potentially earn more points for graduation. Students who earn a 1 or 2 will automatically be retested in the district's next test administration. Students scoring a 3 or 4 must contact their school counselor **no later than Friday, January 8th** to express their intent to retest.

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Common Questions

If a student earned credit on their transcript for a course prior to the state test being available, does the student have to take the end-of-course test now? If not, how will points be earned?

No. Any student that earned high school credit on their transcript in a tested course before July 1, 2015, and prior to a state test being available, will receive graduation points based on his or her letter grade in the course. The chart below indicates the number of graduation points a student will receive based on the transcribed letter grade earned for high school courses prior to the availability of Ohio's State Tests. Any middle or high school student taking one of the seven courses after July 1, 2015 will be required to take the end-of-course test.

TRANSCRIBED HIGH SCHOOL GRADE	OHIO GRADUATION POINTS
A	5
B	4
C	3
D	2

Are there any additional ways to earn graduation points beyond taking Ohio's State Tests?

Yes. Students taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses in Biology, American History or American Government may earn points by taking tests that are specially designed for these courses. To help avoid double testing, these students would not be required to take the state's end-of-course tests. The chart below outlines the correlation between AP scores and graduation points.

AP CROSSWALK TO GRADUATION POINTS	
Advanced Placement (AP)	Graduation Points
4 or 5	5
3	4
2	3
	2
1	1

For more information regarding graduation options beyond the points system, please contact your child's school counselor. Additionally, there will be a parent meeting held in February to discuss testing and graduation further.