

ON TRACK FOR GRADUATION

Class of 2020

FIRST YEAR NINTH GRADE: 2016–2017

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 High School Course Bulletin at <http://coursebulletin.montgomeryschoolsmd.org> 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	4 credits including one 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. NEW 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 credits 1 biology credit, designated BC, and one physical science credit, designated 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	1 credit designated TE . Advanced Technology (AT) courses do not satisfy the TE course requirement. Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
Electives The additional credits required for graduation may be fulfilled by one 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 (AT) AND 2.5 credits in elective courses	Complete a state-approved Program of Study AND 0.5 credit in elective courses

STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)

Student Service Learning (SSL)	75 service-learning hours
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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (MCAP HSA) REQUIREMENTS^{1,2,3,4}

The MCAP HSA 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"> • Take Algebra 1 PARCC or Algebra 1 HSA prior to 2016–2017, OR • Pass Algebra 1 PARCC
Biology/Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (HS-MISA)	Course credit earned in Biology, AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass Biology HSA prior to 2016–2017, OR • Take the no-fault field test for MISA in 2017–2018 or 2018–2019 • Pass HS-MISA
English 10	Course credit earned in English 10 or equivalent, or ESOL 3 or higher, AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass English Language Arts/Literacy 10 PARCC
Government	Course credit earned in National, State, and Local Government, AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass Government HSA

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 MD public schools may be eligible to meet some MCAP HSA content-area requirements with transfer credit.

³ *Combined test score options* are available for the HSAs and for the PARCC assessments.

⁴ *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.