

FILE: JFD

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Effective for students who begin the ninth grade in the 2013-2014 school year and beyond, to earn an Alabama high school diploma, students shall pass the required assessment(s) and earn the required credits for the Alabama High School Diploma. Coursework for this diploma must include an on-line experience. A career and technical endorsement may be added to any diploma by earning three (3) career/technical credits in a sequenced program of courses. A local board of Education may establish requirements for receipt of diplomas and endorsements, but any diploma or endorsement shall include the requirements for the Alabama High School Diploma.

A. Alabama High School Diploma

English **4 credits**

- Grades 9-12

Mathematics **4 credits**

- Option 1: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebraic Connections and Algebra II, **Algebra w/Finance, Computer Science, or Career Mathematics**
- Option 2: Algebra 1A, Algebra 1B, Geometry and Algebra II, **Algebra w/Finance, Computer Science, or Career Mathematics**
- Option 3: Algebra I, Geometry A, Geometry B and Algebra II, **Algebra w/Finance, Computer Science, or Career Mathematics**
- Option 4: Algebra 1A, Algebra 1B, Geometry A, Geometry B and Algebra II, **Algebra w/Finance, Computer Science, or Career Mathematics** *

*This option requires the completion of five math credits to satisfy the math requirement.

Science **4 credits**

- Biology
- A Physical Science (**Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics**)
- **Two Additional Science Electives**
- The third and fourth science credits may be used to meet both the science and CTE course requirements and must be chosen from the *Alabama Course of Study: Science* or CTE/AP/IB/ postsecondary equivalent courses. (**Environmental Management, Plant Biotechnology, or Human Body Structures and Functions**)

Social Studies **4 credits**

- World History/Geography Since 1500
- U.S. History to 1877
- U.S. History Since 1877
- U.S. Government and Economics

Physical Education **1 credit**

- LIFE (Personal Fitness)

Health **0.5 credit**

Career Preparedness	1 credit
CTE and/or Foreign Language and/or Arts Education	3 credits
Electives	6.5 credits
Total Credits Required for Graduation	28 credits

B. Alabama High School Diploma with Advanced Academic Endorsement

English **4 credits**

- Grades 9-12

Mathematics **4 credits**

- Option 1: Algebra 1A, Algebra 1B, Geometry, Algebra II with Trig and Precalculus *
- Option 2: Algebra I, Geometry A, Geometry B, Algebra II with Trig and Precalculus *
- Option 3: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II with Trig and Precalculus
- Option 4: Algebra IA, Algebra IB, Geometry A, Geometry B, Algebra II with Trig and Precalculus **

* This option requires the completion of five math credits to satisfy the math requirement.

**This option requires the completion of six math credits to satisfy the math requirement.

Science **4 credits**

- Biology
- Three of the following courses to include a physical science: Chemistry, Genetics, Physics, Anatomy, Forensics, **Human Body Structures (CTE course)** or other advanced level science course

Social Studies **4 credits**

- World History/Geography Since 1500
- U.S. History to 1877
- U.S. History Since 1877
- U.S. Government and Economics

Foreign Language **2 credits**

- Two credits of the same language are required

Physical Education **1 credit**

- LIFE (Personal Fitness)

Health **0.5 credit**

Career Preparedness **1 credit**

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CTE and/or Foreign Language and/or Arts Education	1 credit
Electives	6.5 credits
Total Credits Required for Graduation:	28 credits

C. Alabama High School Diploma with Advanced Academic Endorsement with High Honors

A diploma designated as an Advanced Academic Endorsement with High Honors will be awarded to students who earn all Carnegie units (credits) required for graduation and pass all required assessments. Courses must be the most advanced level offered at the school or the AP level and must include at least two (2) credits of Advanced Placement core courses. **A student must pass each course and maintain a 3.2 weighted GPA to remain on the High Honors Endorsement track.**

English **4 credits**

- Honors or Advanced English 9
- Honors or Advanced English 10
- Honors or Advanced English 11
- Honors or Advanced English 12 or AP English

Mathematics **4 credits**

- Algebra I
- Honors or Advanced Geometry
- Algebra II with Trig
- Honors or Advanced Precalculus or AP math course

Science **4 credits**

- Advanced or Honors Biology
- Chemistry
- ~~Physics~~
- ~~1 additional honors, advanced or AP Science course~~
- **2 additional honors, advanced courses such as Genetics, Forensics, Anatomy and Physiology, Physics, Human Body Structures and Functions (CTE course) or AP Science**

Social Studies **4 credits**

- Honors or Advanced World History/Geography Since 1500
- Honors or Advanced U.S. History to 1877
- Honors or Advanced U.S. History Since 1877 or AP U.S. History
- Honors or Advanced U.S. Government and Economics or AP U.S. Government and Politics