



Academic Information
A Guide to Student Success

2018-2019

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Non-Discrimination Statement

It is the policy of the Elkin Board of Education that no student shall be denied the benefits of or the right to participate in any program or activity offered by this school system on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, gender (except as provided by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972) or disability (except as provided by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.)

AP Courses

Elkin High School offers Advanced Placement courses when certified teachers are available and when sufficient numbers of students request those courses. To strengthen and legitimize the AP curriculum, students who enroll in the AP courses will be required to take the AP exam for that course in May. **Beginning 2017, the state of North Carolina will provide funding for all AP tests.**

Some AP courses are spread over the entire school year in order to give students a better chance to master the subject matter and to score well on the AP exam. *Calculus AP* and *Special Topics in Mathematics* make a pair, and *US History AP* and *Turning Points in American History Honors* elective make a pair.

The administration and faculty of Elkin High School believe that it is necessary to guide students in registration so that only those students who will make a commitment to AP level courses sign up for them. ***Students will be required to have a grade of 90 or higher in previous honors or AP course work in particular disciplines along with the recommendation of the teacher in order to register for AP courses.*** Exceptions will be made only when students and parents confer with the principal and/or counselors and sign an agreement indicating that against the school's recommendation the student and parent wish to register the student for the AP course.

The standards and requirements for AP courses must be maintained and strengthened, and all who register for such courses must make a strong commitment to the rigors of those courses.

Colleges and universities may award course credit to students who have high AP scores. Substantial financial benefits can be realized if students score high enough to get college credit. Please check the Advanced Placement Credit policy for the college or university you plan to attend.

Honors Courses

In order to insure that the curriculum at Elkin High School includes demanding, rigorous course offerings, honors level courses will be offered in accordance with State Board of Education guidelines.

The administration and faculty of Elkin High School believe that it is necessary to guide students in registration so that only those students who will make a commitment to honors level courses sign up for them. Grade requirements are in place for each department's honors curriculum. Please review the course guide's course description and criteria for selecting courses for further details.

The standards and requirements for honors courses must be maintained and strengthened, and all who register for such courses must make a strong commitment to the rigors of those courses.

Admission Requirements UNC System

Listed below are the minimum course requirements for students entering the University of North Carolina. The University of North Carolina is made up of 16 campuses. The minimum course requirements are established by the Board of Governors of the UNC system, although individual institutions may require other courses in addition to the minimum requirements.

4 Units English

4 Units of Math (including Algebra I and II, Geometry, one unit beyond Algebra II or NC Math I, II, and III and one unit beyond NC Math III)

3 Units of Science including at least one in a life or biological science--Biology, at least 1 unit in a physical science--Physical Science, Chemistry, Physics. One of these must be a laboratory course.

2 Units of Social Studies including one unit in U.S. History

2 Units of a language other than English (Students are encouraged to take two units in the same language.)

North Carolina Academic Scholars Program

What Is It?

In March of 1990 the State Board of Education revised the North Carolina Scholars Program and designated it as the North Carolina Academic Scholars Program. Students who complete the requirements for an academically challenging high school program will be named North Carolina Academic Scholars and receive special recognition. This is the single plan applicable to graduates effective with the Class of 1994 and all subsequent classes.

How Will the Students Be Recognized?

The students who qualify for this special recognition:

- Will have a scholar's seal affixed to the diploma for successfully completing the North Carolina Academic Scholars Program curriculum and maintaining an overall **UNWEIGHTED** grade point average of 3.5 or better.
- Will be designated by the State Board of Education as North Carolina Academic Scholars.
- May use this special recognition in applying to post-secondary institutions. (Candidates are identified by the end of grade 11 and their candidacy can be included in application forms and/or transcripts sent to these institutions.)

Early Graduation

The Elkin Board of Education does not encourage early graduation from Elkin High School. However, if it were to become advantageous/necessary for a senior to graduate after the first semester of the senior year, school board policy states that students must adhere to the procedures/restrictions which follow:

A parent's written notification of the student's intent to graduate early must be presented to the Elkin High School principal no later than September 30 of the student's final semester. The parent will receive a written response from the principal indicating approval/disapproval of the early graduation request.

Graduation prior to that of one's class may be permitted on the basis of criteria approved by the board upon recommendation by the superintendent. A parent's written notification of the student's intent to graduate early must be presented to the Elkin High School principal no later than September 30 of the student's final semester. The parent will receive a written response from the principal indicating approval/disapproval of the early graduation request.

Any student who elects to graduate at the end of first semester may forfeit rights to all school-sponsored activities which occur after the date of the student's withdrawal. Permission to attend school-related events will be an administrative decision. Inappropriate actions or a discipline record may lead to the forfeiture of the right to participate in graduation exercises. Students in attendance senior class events are to comply with Elkin City School's policy and Elkin High School's behavior policies and may be asked to leave if these policies are violated.

Policy Code: 3460 of Elkin City School's Board of Education Policy Manual page 7

Career & College Promise

Career & College Promise opportunities were created by the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges effective January 1, 2012 (Session Law 2011-145).

Career and College Promise provides seamless dual enrollment educational opportunities for eligible North Carolina high school students in order to accelerate completion of college certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees that lead to college transfer or provide entry-level job skills. North Carolina community colleges may offer the following Career and College Promise pathways aligned with the K-12 curriculum and career and college ready standards adopted by the State Board of Education:

1. A Core 44 College Transfer Pathway leading to a minimum of 30 hours of college transfer credit;
2. A Career and Technical Education Pathway leading to a certificate, diploma or degree;
3. A Cooperative Innovate High School Pathway approved under Part 9 of Article 16 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

To be eligible for enrollment, a high school student must meet the following eligibility:

- Be a high school junior or senior
- Have a weighted GPA of 3.0 or higher in high school courses
- Have the recommendation of the high school principal or his/her designee
- Demonstrate college readiness on an assessment or placement test

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

We at Elkin High School believe that all students need a clearly defined transition from school to work. Some students will immediately enter the job market, while others will require more training through a two or four-year college curriculum. Our focus is to help each student identify his/her career pathway and guide him/her through the high school decision-making process. Along with Elkin's rigorous academic curriculum, our CTE program offers opportunities for students to sample the workforce through Job Shadowing, Career Internship, Apprenticeship, and work/study programs as well as through CTE courses aligned to specific Career Clusters.

The mission of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is to empower students to be successful citizens, workers, and leaders in a global economy. CTE programs are designed to contribute to the broad educational achievement of students, including basic skills, as well as their ability to work independently and as part of a team, think creatively and solve problems, and utilize technology in the thinking and problem solving process.

Career and Technical Education fulfills an increasingly significant role in school reform efforts. Students who concentrate in a CTE area, earning at least four related technical credits and meeting other criteria, are better prepared for the further education and advanced training required to be successful in 21st century careers. Career and Technical Educators at the state and local levels partner with business and industry and with community colleges and other postsecondary institutions to ensure Career and Technical Education serves the needs of individual students and of the state.

An opportunity now exists through Career and College Promise for students to enter SCC while still in high school and receive both high school and college credit. Per the articulation agreement, some high school Career & Technical Education courses have been approved by Surry Community College to award college credit providing that the student scores 93% or better on the CTE post assessment at the end of the semester and has a final grade of "B" or better in the course.

To learn more about the Courses and Career Clusters that Elkin has to offer go to the Elkin City Schools website at <http://elkincityschools.org/cte/careerclusters.html> or contact the counselors or career development coordinator at the school.

High School Grading & Reporting

Grading Symbols

Grading symbols appearing on student transcripts beginning with the 2015-2016 are numeric. Prior to that date, the grading symbols were A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), P (Pass), WP (Withdraw Pass), and WF (Withdraw Fail) for courses.

Grading Scale

The alpha symbols will be interpreted for communication purposes on a point scale.

Letter Grade	10 Point Scale (beginning 2015-2016 for ALL Students)
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Below 60

GPA Values

Grade Point Calculations (GPA)

Type of Course	For students (Class of 2019 and after)	All other students (Class of 2017, 2018)
Standard	4.0 for A	4.0 for A
Honors	4.5 for A	5.0 for A
College Level (AP, IB, Community College, University)	5.0 for A	6.0 for A

Promotion Standards

To be promoted to Grade 10 students must earn 5 units, one of which must be English I.

To be promoted to Grade 11 students must earn 12 units including English I & II.

To be promoted to Grade 12 students must earn 20 units including English I, II, & III.

Retaking a Course

Students must retake courses which they have failed if those courses are required for graduation. All grades earned are used in calculating GPAs.

Students may not retake a course they have already passed since it is not possible to earn credit for the same course twice. (There are a few exceptions to this State Board of Education guideline including performance courses like Band and Physical Conditioning.) Accuracy of the historic record and fairness to all students are guiding principles for this school practice. Rare exceptions will be considered on appeal to the principal.

Course Sequencing

Students should register for courses based on the building of skills from one level to the next. Students may not register for lower level courses after having passed more advanced level courses in the same discipline.

Junior Marshals

The weighted grade point average will be calculated at the end of the 1st semester of the junior year for all juniors. The Junior Marshals will be the top 10% of the class.

Honor Graduates

Elkin High School will recognize as honor graduates all students who have a weighted grade point average of 3.5 or higher to be calculated at the end of the 1st semester of the senior year and verified just before graduation.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS— ELKIN HIGH SCHOOL

Diploma Requirements

Class of 2016 & beyond

	<u>Units</u>
English (English I, II, III, IV)	4
Math (NC Math I, II, III; 4 th math credit must be aligned with the student’s post high school plans.) If currently enrolled in NC Math I, student will progress NC Math II, III, then 4 th Math.	4
Science (An Earth/Environmental Science; Biology I; a Physical Science)	3
Social Studies (World History; American History: The Founding Principles, Civics, & Economics; American History I & II) *Students enrolled in AP US History in 11 th grade must take a fourth Social Studies course to meet graduation requirements.	4
Health/Physical Education (9 th grade Health/PE)	1
<i>Required by State of NC</i>	16
<i>Electives Required by State of NC</i> <u>2 elective credits of any combination from either:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses• Arts Education• Second Languages (required for college/university) <u>4 elective credits strongly recommended (four course concentration/Cluster). This would include 3 foundational courses and 1 enhancement course from the student’s designated cluster.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses• JROTC• Arts Education (i.e., dance, music, theater arts, visual arts)• Any other subject area (i.e., mathematics, science, social studies, English)	6
<i>Total Units Required by State of NC</i>	22
<i>Additional Electives Required by EHS</i>	6
<i>Total Units Required for Graduation from EHS</i>	28

**Other graduation requirements include the Graduation Project, passing required EOC’s, and CPR Certification.*

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Local Requirements

EOC Requirements

The State Board of Education sets standards for students across North Carolina to meet prior to high school graduation, and each local board of education may set additional standards for students. These could include meeting specific scores on end-of-course tests, completing a higher number of course credits or other standards.

Graduation Project Requirements

Students are required to complete a senior graduation project. The graduation project will include a review process, a research project, a portfolio, a product related to the paper, and a project presentation about the graduation project to a panel of community and faculty members. Students will begin receiving information about graduation project requirements in their freshman year during Elk Time settings. Work on the project will culminate during the senior year. For more information about your local requirements contact your high school guidance counselor or principal, or your local school district.

ACT

The ACT is a state mandated test for 11th graders. It is one of America's most widely accepted college entrance exams. The ACT test assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The multiple-choice tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, writing and science. The ACT will be administered in the spring semester of a student's junior year. This will be coordinated through the school and administered during the school day. For more information visit <http://www.act.org>.

Pre ACT

The Pre ACT is a state mandated test for 10th graders. It helps build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts' high-priority issues. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years. The Pre ACT can help all students—those who are college-bound as well as those who are likely to enter the workforce directly after high school. The Pre ACT serves as the midpoint measure of academic progress in ACT's College and Career Readiness System. This test will be given in the fall semester of a student's sophomore year. This will be coordinated through the school and administered during the school day. For more information visit www.act.org/plan/.

WORKKEYS

WorkKeys is a state mandated test for all seniors who are CTE concentrators having taken four courses in a concentration area/career cluster including a Level II course. The WorkKeys assessment is the test required to earn a Career Readiness Certification. The assessment includes three testing areas: Workplace Documents, Applied Math, and Graphic Literacy. Students must earn a Silver level score to be considered proficient on WorkKeys. Momentum continues to build behind the National Career Readiness Certificate, which is now recognized as the most effective strategy for certifying workplace skills and predicting workplace success. WorkKeys will be coordinated through the school and administered during the school day.