

Interested in an Honors Diploma?

Below is board policy 4.602 that details the specifics regarding ranking:

At Cheatham County Schools, there are 3 levels of academic achievement acknowledged at graduation plus state distinction:

Cheatham County Board of Education			
Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Class Ranking	Descriptor Code: 4.602	Issued Date: 05/02/16
		Rescinds: 4.602	Issued: 03/02/15

Beginning with the graduating class of 2016

- Students' grade point averages (GPA) shall be calculated on the 4.0 scale with the following quality point value: A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1, F-0. Students who take and pass the following courses shall be ranked before students who do not take and pass these courses:

English: Advanced English 3, Advanced English 4, Dual Enrollment (DE) English 3; Dual Enrollment (DE) English 4; or Applied Communications;

Mathematics: Algebra 1 or Math for Technology 2; Algebra 2; Geometry; at least one of the following: Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Discrete Mathematics with Statistics and Probability, Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Dual Enrollment (DE) Pre-Calculus 1, Dual Enrollment (DE) Pre-calculus 2, Dual Enrollment (DE) Calculus 1, Dual Enrollment (DE) Calculus 2;

Science: Biology 1 or Biology for Technology; Chemistry 1; and at least two of the following: Biology 2, Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry 2, or Physics;

Social Studies: Advanced United States History, Dual Enrollment (DE) United States History.

All academic AP and DE courses offered are considered in the rank. Refer to each school's curriculum applicable course.

- The GPA for seniors shall be calculated at the end of their seventh term, that is, after the fall term of their senior year, for class-ranking purposes. GPAs for individual students shall be recalculated at the end of their eighth term, but the recalculation shall have no effect on the ranking in class.
- The Valedictorian and Salutatorian for a given senior class shall be calculated based on GPAs at the end of their seventh term, that is, after the fall term of their senior year and based on the students having taken the required courses listed in Section 1 of this policy.

One Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be selected and recognized for each high school.

For purposes of determining the Valedictorian and Salutatorian only, certain courses shall be designated as Honors courses, and shall be calculated on a 5.0 scale with the following quality point value: A-5, B-4, C-3, D-2, F-0. The Honors courses are as follows:

- HONORS:**
 - Must have 3.0 GPA regardless of classes taken (see #5 in policy)
 - Noted on diploma/transcript
 - Option to purchase cord for graduation
 - Automatically qualifies for HOPE Scholarship (via state legislation)
- HIGHEST RANKING:**
 - Must take classes noted in #1 in policy and maintain 3.0 GPA
 - Receives same as honors
 - Can also purchase a gold tassel
 - NOTE: Do not depend on your counselor to make sure you have all the classes you need for class ranking—check your schedule against the policy.
 - It must be the individual responsibility as each student has unique scheduling needs and no one schedule (cont'd).

English. Dual Enrollment (DE) and Honors.

Math. After a given student has taken one of these courses, the remaining courses shall be designated as Honors courses: Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry, Discrete Mathematics with Statistics and Probability, Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus 2, Calculus, Calculus 2.

Science. After a given student has taken two of these courses, the remaining courses shall be designated as Honors courses: Biology 2, Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry 2, Physics.

Social Studies. Dual Enrollment (DE) and Honors.

Foreign Languages. Third-year and fourth-year courses in the same foreign language shall be designated as Honors courses.

Dual Enrollment (DE) Courses are defined as those courses that meet the College requirements with whom the High School contracts and that provide students with actual college credit opportunities.

Beginning with school year 2011-2012

In the event of a tie, the following will be used as the tiebreaker for the determination of Valedictorian or Salutatorian:

- a. Grade Point Average (GPA) to the hundredths
 - b. Grade Point Average to the hundredths on AP, DE, or Honors classes
 - c. Highest recorded composite ACT score
 - d. Dual Enrollment (DE) or Honors classes
 - e. State Writing Assessment Score on 11th grade
4. Twelfth grade students who enter a Cheatham County high school from within or without the local system at the beginning of the fall term of their senior year, or later, shall be ranked with the seniors at their new high school. These students' ranking, however, shall not jeopardize the ranking of students enrolled at the school before the beginning of the fall term of their senior year. For example, if ranked 14th in the class, the transfer student and the student enrolled before the fall term of their senior year both hold the same rank of 14th. The student with the next highest GPA would be ranked in numerical order as 15th.
 5. All students who earn a GPA of 3.0 or better on the 4.0 scale shall be designated as honor students.
 6. Since students who choose early admission to college are given grades for credits earned away from their high school during their high school senior year, they shall not be included in the class ranking of seniors.
 7. Students who re-take a required or elective course in an attempt to earn a higher grade, shall

have the grades from all times the course has been taken placed on their permanent grade record. All grades earned shall be used to calculate their GPAs for class ranking purposes.

(cont'd) is a "highest ranking" schedule. Please carefully check each year.

3. VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN:

-Very specific guidelines are set for only 2 people. See #3 in the policy.

4. STATE DISTINCTION:

-Must have a "B" average +1 of the following:

- National or state industry certification
- Governor's school
- All-state musical organization
- National Merit finalist or semi-final
- 31 or higher ACT
- Score 3 or higher on 2+ placement exams
- Earn 12 or more DE credits

-Tell guidance to ensure recognition

5. VOLUNTEERISM:

-10 hours of community service each semester during high school can be recognized at graduation