

Arkansas Required High School Courses

This set of unique courses must be offered even if they fall into two categories.

Updated June 2025 (DESE Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts, Appendix A, Standard 1-A.1.3)

English Language Arts (ELA)	
Must offer 3 credits from below	
410000 English I	1 credit
411000 English II	1 credit
Accelerated ELA Offerings**	1 credit
Must offer 2 credits from below	
412000 English III	1 credit
413000 English IV	1 credit
418030 English: Comparative Literature	0.5 credit
418210 English: Entrepreneurship and Innovation	0.5 credit
418030 English: Comparative Literature	0.5 credit
418120 English: Mass Communications	0.5 credit
418100 English: Public Relations	0.5 credit
418110 English: Reading and Writing for Business	0.5 credit
418200 English: Reading and Writing for STEM	0.5 credit
418220 English: Technical Reading and Writing for Trade and Industry	0.5 credit
418010 English: U.S. History Seminal Documents	0.5 credit
418020 English: World Literature	0.5 credit
Must offer 0.5 credit from below	
414200 Oral Communication: Personal Communication	0.5 credit
414210 Oral Communication: Professional Communication	0.5 credit
Must offer 2 credits from below	
517070 AP Research	1 credit
517060 AP Seminar	1 credit
417010 Creative Writing	0.5 credit
414050 Debate I	1 credit
416000 ELA Drama	0.5 credit
414020 Forensics I	1 credit
415000 Journalism I	1 credit
419110 Strategic Reading Grade 9 (as well as courses for Grades 10-12)	1 credit
496030 Transitional Literacy Ready	1 credit
Additional English 0.5 credit courses	0.5 credit
<i>✦ Approved Pre-AP and English with Oral Communications courses may be implemented in lieu of the corresponding courses in the required list.</i>	
Total required English Language Arts:	7.5 credits

Fine Arts	
Must offer 2 credits from below	
450000 Visual Art Foundations I	1 credit
452000 Vocal Ensemble I	1 credit
Must offer 1 credit from below	
451000 Band I	1 credit
451200 Jazz Band I	1 credit
451100 Orchestra I	1 credit
451140 Marching Band I	0.5 credit
Must offer 0.5 credit from below	
Any Fine Arts course within the approved discipline areas:	
- Music, Visual Art, Theater, and/or Dance	
- Accelerated course offerings	
Total required Fine Arts:	3.5 credits

Mathematics	
Must offer 5 credits from below	
430000 Algebra I	1 credit
432000 Algebra II	1 credit
431000 Geometry	1 credit
433000 Pre Calculus	1 credit
Accelerated Mathematics Offerings**	1 credit
Must offer 2 credits from below	
439070 Algebra III (Transitional)	1 credit
434010 Calculus	1 credit
439120 Quantitative Reasoning (Transitional) ✦	1 credit
439090 Statistics	1 credit
439130 Technical Math for College and Career	1 credit
✦ Required Course Offering by SY26-27	
Total required Mathematics:	7 credits

Science	
Must offer 4 credits from below	
420000 Biology - Integrated	1 credit
421000 Chemistry - Integrated	1 credit
423000 Physical Science - Integrated	1 credit
Accelerated Science Offerings**	1 credit
Must offer 2 credits from below	
424030 Anatomy/Physiology	1 credit
425050 Astronomy	1 credit
421010 Chemistry II	1 credit
425020 Earth Science	1 credit
424020 Environmental Science	1 credit
422010 Physics	1 credit
Total required Science:	6 credits

Social Studies	
Must offer 4 credits from below	
472000 Civics	0.5 credit
474300 Economics with Personal Finance	0.5 credit
470000 United States History Since 1929	1 credit
471000 World History Since 1450	1 credit
Accelerated SS Offerings**	1 credit
Must offer 1 credit from below	
474700 African American History	0.5 credit
473000 Arkansas History	0.5 credit
474400 Psychology	0.5 credit
474500 Sociology	0.5 credit
474100 United States Government	0.5 credit
474600 World Geography	0.5 credit
Total required Social Studies:	5 credits

World Languages	
Must offer 2 credits from the same language	
Total required World Languages:	2 credits

Physical Education	
Must offer 1 credit from below	
485040 Athletics	0.5 credit
485030 Outdoor Pursuits	0.5 credit
485010 Personal Fitness for Life	0.5 credit
485020 Recreational Sports	0.5 credit
Total required Physical Education:	1 credit

Computer Science	
Must offer 1 credit from below	
492140 Advanced Databases	1 credit
565130 AP Computer Science A*	1 credit
565030 AP Computer Science Principles*	1 credit
465430 Artificial Intelligence	1 credit
593640 Business Intelligence*	1 credit
465490 Computer Engineering	1 credit
465720 Computing with Data	1 credit
465290 Cybersecurity	1 credit
465730 Data Science	1 credit
465090 Desktop Application Development	1 credit
495460 Digital Electronics	1 credit
494820 Electronics II	1 credit
465690 Game Development and Design	1 credit
465180 Information Technology and Security	1 credit
465070 Introduction to Computer Science*	1 credit
565330 International Baccalaureate (IB) Computer Science HL 1	1 credit
565340 International Baccalaureate (IB) Computer Science HL 2	1 credit
565230 International Baccalaureate (IB) Computer Science SL	1 credit
565040 International Baccalaureate (IB) Computer Science SL 2	1 credit
465390 Mobile App Development	1 credit
465190 Networking	1 credit
465580 Physical Computing with Embedded Systems	1 credit
593650 Precision Agriculture	1 credit
465590 Robotics	1 credit
465080 Software Development	1 credit
* Indicates course credit can be earned in Grade 8	
Total required Computer Science:	1 credit

Career Education	
Must offer three (3) program of study representing three (3) different pathways. One of which must meet the high wage and high growth designation as indicated by the department.	
Total required Career Education:	9 credits

Health and Wellness	
480000 Health and Wellness	0.5 credit

Schools must offer the following:

- (1) One math and one literacy transitional course [A.C.A. § 6-15-2012(b)]
- (2) Arkansas History if not taught in the 7th or 8th grade (A.C.A. § 6-16-124)

**Accelerated Course Options: Advanced Placement (AP), Cambridge AICE, International Baccalaureate (IB), and/or Concurrent Credit

