

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from Harlem High School, including participation in the graduation ceremony, students must earn 26 credits beginning with the Class of 2008 and thereafter. Students will not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies if they have outstanding expenses due to the District. One-half (.5) credit is given for completing course requirements for each eighteen week semester. Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank are computed at the end of each semester starting with Grade 9. The earned credits will include the required courses listed below plus electives. The School Board determines high school graduation requirements that will provide each student ample opportunity to achieve the goals for which the School District exists and that meet the minimum graduation requirements contained in State law. Unless otherwise exempted, each student must successfully accomplish the following in order to graduate from high school:

Classes of 2010-2011
3.0 English Writing ****
3.0 Mathematics ***
2.0 Science
3.0 Social Studies
.5 Consumer Education/Economics
.5 Health
3.5 Physical Education *
.5 Career Development
.5 Keyboarding I
9.5 Electives **
26 Total Credits

Classes of 2012	Classes of 2013 and After, including students who return without completing the RVC Running Start Program
4.0 English Writing ****	4.0 English Writing ****
3.0 Mathematics ***	3.0 Mathematics ***
2.0 Science	3.0 Science

3.0 Social Studies .5 Consumer Education/Economics .5 Health 3.5 Physical Education * .5 Career Development .5 Keyboarding I 8.5 Electives **	3.0 Social Studies .5 Consumer Education/Economics .5 Health 3.5 Physical Education * .5 Career Development 8.0 Electives **
26 Total Credits	26 Total Credits

* A student must successfully complete at least two semesters of Physical Education for each year enrolled in Grades 9-12. Exceptions would be for students involved in athletics, or other authorized reasons where prior approval is granted by the building principal.

** The state requires students to complete at least one year of Art, Business/Computer Technology, Foreign Language, Family & Consumer Science, Technical Education, or Music before receiving the high school diploma.

***The state requires students to complete three years of mathematics, one of which must be Algebra I and one of which must include geometry content.

****The state requires students to complete two years of writing intensive courses, one of which must be English and the other of which may be English or any other subject. When applicable, writing-intensive courses may be counted towards the fulfillment of other graduation requirements.

Those students enrolled full-time in the Rock Valley College Running Start Program will be considered to be enrolled full-time at Harlem High School. Students enrolled in the Running Start Program will have the Harlem High School graduation requirements listed below.

HHS Classes for Running Start Students	RVC Classes for Running Start Students *****
2.0 English 2.0 Mathematics 2.0 Science 2.5 Social Studies .5 Consumer Education/Economics .5 Health 1.5 Physical Education * .5 Career Development	English – Students will be enrolled in ENG 101 and 103/or SPH 131 junior year. Senior year ENG 103/SPH 131 and a LIT course. Social Students HST 142/143 (in either order) junior year. Senior year PSC 160 and an approved elective. Math-Junior year MTH 120 and 220 or MTH

2.5 Electives **	<p>125 and 135. Senior year would be elective if they were looking in a math or science Bachelor's degree.</p> <p>Science – Junior year BIO 103/104 lab or BIO 106/107 lab. Then at a minimum one more course in the physical science area either junior or senior year.</p> <p>Non-Western Culture – 1 course to be taken either year.</p> <p>Planning for Success – summer prior to junior year.</p> <p>Electives – in addition to above to meet 64 credit hour minimum at RVC.</p>
14 Total Credits	Successful completion of above requirements

*******For Running Start Students:** If a student leaves or is otherwise unable to complete the Running Start Program, he/she will receive .5 credits per successfully completed semester course (of at least three semester credits) at Rock Valley College. These students will have the same graduation requirements as the rest of their graduating class. The principal will determine the application of these credits toward Harlem High School graduation requirements. This policy is specific to requirements for graduation from Harlem High School for those students completing the Running Start Program. Specific requirements for completing the Associate's Degree, and the individual student's satisfactory completion of these requirements, are determined by Rock Valley College.

A student who does not meet the minimum requirements on the EXPLORE and/or PLAN exam will be placed in a required academic intervention in lieu of an elective credit. Students in the class of 2011 may seek approved exemption from the principal or designee by submitting a letter justifying said exemption request.

A student must pass an examination on patriotism and principles of representative government, proper use of the flag, methods of voting and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Building Principal is responsible for notifying students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) of the District's graduation requirements.

A student must complete all courses as provided in The School Code 105 ILCS 5/27-22.

A student must complete all minimum requirements for graduation as specified by Illinois State Board of Education Rule, 23 Ill. Admin. Code Sec. 440.

A student must complete all District course requirements.

Take the Prairie State Achievement Examination, unless the student: (a) is exempt according to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64, or (b) during the 2004-05 school year, meets ISBE's requirements for seniors who did not take the PSAE as juniors and were unable to participate in the retake.

According to the Illinois Administrative Code 1.30 Subtitle A Subchapter, a district shall NOT promote a student to grade 12 status until that student has taken the ACT/PSAE at Harlem High School (ACT/PSAE state test), even if the student has earned enough credits to be classified as a 12th grader. The national ACT test will not qualify any student for 12th grade status.

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for: (1) maintaining a description of all course offerings that comply with the above graduation requirements, (2) notifying students and their parents/guardians of graduation requirements, (3) developing the criteria for determining when a student accomplishes the Prairie State Achievement Examination, as well as a method of recording that fact in the student's school record, (4) complying with State law requirements for students who transfer during their senior year because their parent(s)/guardian(s) are on active military duty. This includes making reasonable adjustments to ensure graduation if possible, or efforts to ensure that the original (transferor) school district issues the student a diploma, and (5) taking all other actions to implement this policy.

Placement in Advanced Course Levels

A student request for initial enrollment in advanced levels of a course sequence (for example, requesting enrollment in Spanish 2 without having taken Spanish 1) shall be considered by the principal at his or her discretion. If permitted by the school principal, proficiency may be determined only after successful completion by the student of any appropriate proficiency examination(s) designated by the school administration. A student placement in advanced course levels under this program will not be granted course credit for the lower level courses except as provided otherwise in Board Policy.

Senior Transfer Credits From Another Public High School or Regionally Accredited Private High School.

A student entering their senior year at Harlem High School after transferring from another public high school or regionally accredited private high school may waive up to two graduation credits if the following applies:

- 1) The student has been enrolled full-time and has passed all classes from his/her previous public or regionally accredited private high school(s).
- 2) The student has attained at least 17 credits from his/her previous high school(s).

- 3) The student is enrolled full-time his/her senior year (7 credits).

The student shall first be enrolled in required classes for graduation if he/she has not earned these required credits prior to transfer.

The Building Principal/or designee would authorize waiver of up to two credits providing all of the above listed requirements are met.

The student or parent/guardian must request the credit waiver prior to starting classes at Harlem High School in their senior year.

Correspondence Classes and Graduation

If a student does not complete his/ her graduation requirements, including correspondence classes and correspondence final exams by the last day of the current school year, then they must return to Harlem High School in August of the following school year to complete all of their remaining course requirements while attending HHS.

Retaking Failed Courses

If a student fails a course required for graduation during the academic year, the student must first attempt to retake the course in summer school (if offered) prior to retaking the course in following academic years. A student who must retake multiple courses must retake at least one course in summer school prior to re-taking courses during the following academic years.

A student who does not attempt to retake failed required course(s) during summer school (if offered) will be assigned to retake those course(s) during the academic year in lieu of elective course opportunities.

Early Graduation

A student applying for early graduation must complete 3 ½ years of high school and meet the following requirements: Successful completion of all course and credit requirements for graduation and must show proof of immediate enrollment at an institution of higher learning or have a military obligation that begins prior to the end of the current school year.

Certificate of Completion

A student with a disability who has an individualized education program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's 4 years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed 4 years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony of his or her high school graduation class. The Superintendent or designee shall provide timely written notice of this requirement to children with disabilities and their parents/guardians.

Veterans of World War II, Korean Conflict or VietNam

Upon application, an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, or Viet Nam will be awarded a diploma, provided that he or she: (1) resided within an area currently within the District at the time he or she left high school, (2) left high school before graduating in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and (3) as not received a high school diploma.

LEGAL REF:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64, 5/22-27, 5/27-3, and 5/27-22.
23 Ill.Admin.Code§1.440.

CROSS REF: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:300-E (Application for a Diploma for Veterans of WWII or the Korean Conflict), 6:320 (Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

APPROVED: