

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 283

SECTION/FILE: 613

DATE OF ADOPTION: 10/22/1980

REVISED: 2/25/86; 10/10/02; 11/13/06;
8/14/2024; **First Reading 11/12/25**

TITLE: Graduation Requirements

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district that all students must demonstrate, as determined by the school district, their satisfactory completion of the credit requirements and their understanding of academic standards. The school district must adopt graduation requirements that meet or exceed state graduation requirements established in rule or law.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Credit - a student's successful completion of one semester of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.
- B. Section 504 Accommodation - the defined appropriate accommodations or modifications that must be made in the school environment to address the needs of an individual student with disabilities.
- C. Individualized Education Program or IEP- a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.
- D. Multilingual Learner or ML student - an individual whose first language is not English and whose test performance may be negatively impacted by lack of English language Proficiency.
- E. Required standard - a statewide adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, health, and the arts. Locally developed academic standards in health apply until statewide rules implementing health standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.021, subdivision 3, are required to be implemented in the classroom.

IV. TEST ADMINISTRATOR

A. ~~Director of Teaching and Learning~~ **District Assessment Coordinator** shall be named the school district test administrator. Said person shall be in charge of all test procedures.

V. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Credit Requirements

Students must successfully complete, as determined by the school district, the following high school level credits for graduation:

1. Eight credits of language arts sufficient to satisfy all academic standards in English language arts;

2. Six credits of mathematics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in Mathematics;
3. Six credits of science, including two credits to satisfy all the earth and space science standards for grades 9 through 12, two credits to satisfy all the life science standards for grades 9 through 12, and two credits to satisfy all the chemistry or physics standards for grades 9 through 12;
4. Eight credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship in either grade 11 or 12 for students beginning in grade 9 in the 2025-2026 school year and later or an advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or other rigorous course on government and citizenship under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.21, subdivision 1a, and a combination of other credits encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in social studies;
5. Two credits in the arts sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in the Arts;
6. One credit in physical education sufficient to satisfy the state standards in physical education;
7. One credit in health;
8. A minimum of twelve elective course credits.
9. Students ~~who begin grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and~~ in the Class of 2028 and beyond must successfully complete a course credit in personal finance ~~after 9th grade~~.

B. Credit Requirements - Beginning with 9th graders the school year 2026-27

1. Eight credits of language arts sufficient to satisfy all academic standards in English language arts;
2. Six credits of mathematics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in Mathematics;
3. Six credits of science, including two credits to satisfy all the earth and space science standards for grades 9 through 12, two credits to satisfy all the life science standards for grades 9 through 12, and two credits to satisfy all the chemistry or physics standards for grades 9 through 12;
4. Eight credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship in either grade 11 or 12 for students beginning in grade 9 in the 2025-2026 school year and later or an advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or other rigorous course on government and citizenship under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.21, subdivision 1a, and a combination of other credits encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in social studies;
5. Two credits in the arts sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in the Arts;
6. Two credits in physical education sufficient to satisfy the state standards in physical education;
7. One credit in health;

8. A minimum of twenty-one (21) elective course credits.
9. ~~Students who begin grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and in the Class of 2028 and beyond must successfully complete a course credit in personal finance after 9th grade.~~
10. Beginning with the class of 2030, students will complete 15 community service hours prior to graduation.
11. Beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, St. Louis Park High School will transition from a traditional seven-period day to a 4x4 block schedule. This schedule provides students the opportunity to earn up to eight credits per academic year. To support a smooth transition and maintain fairness for students who began high school under the previous schedule, credit requirements for graduation will be adjusted by cohort as outlined below.

Graduation Credit Requirements by Cohort

Graduating Class	Total Credits Required	Physical Education Requirement
Class of 2027	46 credits	No additional PE required
Class of 2028	52 credits	No additional PE required
Class of 2029	56 credits (out of 64 possible)	Additional PE credit required
Class of 2030 and beyond	56 credits (out of 64 possible)	Additional PE credit required

C. Credit equivalences

1. A one-half credit of economics taught in a school's agricultural, food, and natural resources education or business education program or department may fulfill a one-half credit in social studies if the credit is sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in economics.
2. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may fulfill the elective science credit if the credit meets the state physical science, life science, earth and space science, chemistry, or physics academic standards, or a combination of these academic standards as approved by the school district. An agriculture or career and technical education credit may fulfill the credit in chemistry or physics academic standards as approved by the school district. A student must satisfy either all of the chemistry academic standards or all of the

physics academic standards prior to graduation. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may not fulfill the required biology credit.

3. A career and technical education credit may fulfill a math or arts credit requirement.
4. A computer science credit may fulfill a math credit requirement if the credit meets state academic standards in math.
5. An ethnic studies course may fulfill a social studies, language arts, arts, math, or science credit if the course meets the applicable state academic standards. An ethnic studies course may fulfill an elective credit if the course meets applicable local standards or other requirements.

[Note: Starting in the 2026-2027 school year, a high school must offer an ethnic studies course; in elementary and middle schools by the 2027-2028 school year.]

D. All students must demonstrate their understanding of the following required academic standards:

- a) Minnesota Academic Standards, Language Arts K-12;
- b) Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12;
- c) Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12;
- d) Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12;
- e) Minnesota Academic Standards or locally developed standards, Arts K-12;
- f) Minnesota Academic Standards, Physical Education; and
- g) School District Standards in Health, Career and Technical Education; and World Languages.

VI. EARLY GRADUATION

Students may be considered for early graduation, as provided for within Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 upon meeting the following conditions:

- A. All courses or standards and credit requirements must be met.

V. NOTICE

The school district will notify students and their parent(s) / guardian of the school district's graduation requirements within 30 working days of a student's entry into ninth grade and provide an annual update to students and the parent(s) / guardian of progress towards graduation.