

Descriptor Term: Graduation Requirements
 Descriptor: IKF
 Rescinds IKF

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For the entering ninth grade class of 2005-2006, twenty-five Carnegie units will be required for all students graduating from the Tupelo Public School District inclusive of the following:

<u>Curriculum Area</u>	<u>Carnegie Units</u>	<u>Required Subjects</u>
English	4.0 units (1)	4.0 Units
Mathematics	4.0 Units (2)	1.0 Algebra I
Science	3.0 Units (3)	1.0 Biology I
Social Studies	3.0 Units	1.0 World History
		1.0 World History
		0.5 US Government
		0.5 Mississippi Studies (4)
Health & PE	1.0 Unit	0.5 Comprehensive Health or Family & Individual Health
The Arts	1.0 Unit	
Business and Technology	1.0 Units (5)	0.5 Computer Applications
		0.5 Keyboarding
<u>Electives</u>	<u>8.0 Units (6)</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>25.0 Units</u>	

For the entering ninth grade class of 2006-2007 and subsequent years, twenty-six Carnegie units will be required for all students graduating from the Tupelo Public School District inclusive of the listed courses.

<u>Curriculum Area</u>	<u>Carnegie Units</u>	<u>Required Subjects</u>
English	4.0 Units (1)	4.0 Units
Mathematics	4.0 Units (2)	1.0 Algebra I
Science	4.0 Units (3)	1.0 Biology I
Social Studies	4.0 Units	1.0 World History
		1.0 US History
		0.5 US Government
		0.5 Mississippi Studies (4)
		0.5 Economics
Health & PE	1.0 Unit	0.5 Comprehensive Health or Family & Individual Health
Business & Technology	1.0 Unit (5)	0.5 Keyboarding
		0.5 Computer Applications
The Arts	1.0 Unit	
<u>Electives</u>	<u>7.0 Units (6)</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>26.0 Units</u>	

1. Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation, however, these courses may be included in the

~~seven (7) eight (8) general electives required for graduation. (Seven (7) general electives will be required for members of the entering ninth grade class of 2006-2007.)~~

2. ~~Beginning with eighth grade students in school year 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra, as well as Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Survey of Mathematical Topics, Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation, however, these courses may be included in the seven (7) eight (8) general electives required for graduation. At least one of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Probability and Statistics, and AP Statistics. (Seven (7) general electives will be required for members of the entering ninth grade class of 2006-2007.)~~
3. One unit may be in Technology Applications or Introduction to Agriscience or Agriscience I or Concepts of Agriscience or Allied Health or Aquaculture. ~~For members of the entering ninth grade class of 2006-2007~~ Students who elect not to complete one unit from the courses listed in sentence one of this note, three (3) Carnegie Units must be selected from among the following courses: Astronomy, Geology, Physical Science, Zoology, Environmental Science, Botany, Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, AP Chemistry, Physics, AP Physics, Science Skills, and Reasoning. If one of the units from the sentence 1 list is taken, the student must select two (2) Carnegie Units from the sentence note 2 list.
4. The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. ~~For members of the entering ninth grade class of 2006-2007, The Carnegie Units earned in Social Studies must include Mississippi Studies, U.S. History, World History, U.S. Government, Economics and 0.5 Carnegie Units from the following courses: Biblical History of the Middle East, AP European History, Global Studies, Law Related Studies, Minority Studies, Psychology, AP Psychology, or Sociology.~~
5. One unit in Computer Discovery is accepted in lieu of the two ½ unit courses. Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the Business and Technology Framework (academic and vocational).
6. Elective units in physical education include participation in interscholastic athletic activities that meet the instructional requirements specified in the Fitness through Physical Education Framework and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association. In addition, ~~beginning with 2000-2001 seniors,~~ the limitations have been removed on the number of elective Carnegie Units earned in band, physical education, and choral music. Exemption from physical education will require annual submission of a letter or written statement from a licensed physician.
7. Starting with the entering freshman class of 2010-2011, students must successfully complete a Graduation Project. Students will select a topic in which s/he will submit a research paper, create a product, design a portfolio, and participate in an oral presentation. An evaluation rubric will be used to score the projects. The rubric will be developed by a team appointed by Tupelo High School administration.

The culmination of the Graduation Project will occur during the students' senior year to show his or her competency/proficiency rating according to the rubric for each component of the Graduation Project in order to graduate. Occupational Course of Study (OCS) students may have a modified Graduation Project. The OCS students will participate in the parts of the Graduation Project as state in the students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

As determined by the 9th grade school year, a graduate of the TPSD must successfully complete the ~~Functional Literacy Examination or designated subtests of the Functional Literacy Examination and/or~~ specified academic end-of course tests (subject area tests) in U.S. History from 1877, English II (with a writing component), Biology I, and Algebra I as well as meeting any other graduation requirements mandated by the State of Mississippi or required by the ~~Tupelo Public School District. A listing of the specific Functional Literacy Examination and/or~~ academic end-of-course tests (subject area tests) graduation requirements for 9th grade students in school years 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 is as follows:

- ~~Students who began 9th grade in school year 2000-2001 (anticipated graduation is 2004) must pass the mathematics section of the FLE plus the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History from 1877 and English II (with a writing component).~~
- ~~Students who began 9th grade in 2001-2002 (anticipated graduation in 2005) must pass the mathematics section of the FLE plus the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History from 1877, English II (with a writing component), and Biology I.~~
- ~~Students who began 9th grade in 2002-2003 (anticipated graduation in 2006 or later) must pass the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History from 1877, English II (with a writing component), Biology I, and Algebra I. This group of students must pass all four Subject Area Tests even if they take the course(s) prior to their 9th grade year.~~

All ~~subsequent~~ graduating classes must pass the four academic end-of-course tests (subject area tests) in order to earn a regular high school diploma.

With the prior approval of the principal, students enrolled in an accredited summer school program may earn a maximum of one unit of credit applicable to graduation requirements during each summer school session. A total of one Carnegie unit earned through a correspondence course may also be counted toward meeting the minimum graduation requirements. The correspondence course must have the prior approval of the principal.

~~Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of 1998-99,~~ Students who successfully meet all graduation requirements as established by the State of Mississippi and the Board of Trustees of the TPSD will be awarded a diploma based on the following standards:

<u>Standard</u>	<u>Type of Diploma</u>
Successfully complete the minimum number of required Carnegie units and required courses.	Diploma
Successfully complete 26 (27 Carnegie Units for	Diploma with Commendations

2006-2007 entering ninth graders) Carnegie units and required courses with 85 minimum average.

Successfully complete 28 Carnegie units and required courses with 85 minimum average.

Diploma with Honors

Students with a final grade point average between 95 and 100 for all courses taken in grades 9-12 will graduate with special distinction. Students with a final grade point average between 89-94 for all courses taken in grades 9-12 will graduate with distinction.

In lieu of the above requirements, a student who has been ruled eligible for a special education in the District may exercise an option to work toward a certificate of completion or an occupational diploma. At the completion of eighth grade, the requirements for earning a certificate or diploma will be presented to the parents of a student ruled eligible for special education services which explains the procedures and requirements for each option. The parents will execute a signed agreement with the District specifying the option selected. This decision will be subject to reconsideration by all parties.

The Individual Education Plan (IEP) will thereafter reflect the option selected by the parents and will specify whether the student is seeking a diploma or certificate. By or before age twenty-one, a special education student will be eligible to receive a certificate and participate in high school graduation ceremonies upon satisfactory and successful completion of the objectives at an achievement level consistent with the ability of the student and as specified in the student's IEP.

All students successfully completing the requirements for the General Educational Development program will be awarded a certificate upon the completion of their Individual Career Plan.