

High School Graduation Requirements

The Governing Board recognizes its responsibility to prescribe requirement for a high school diploma of graduation. The course of study for students obtaining a high school diploma in Paramount Unified School District shall include the specific courses and disciplines required by law, as well as those deemed appropriate by the Board of Education.

To obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Four courses in English (40 credits).

Students are required to be enrolled in English courses through grade 12. Students not proficient in English will be enrolled in an appropriate English Language Development (ELD) program. ELD students are required to take 40 credits of ELD and/or English.

2. Three courses in Mathematics (30 credits).

At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two Mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I. Completion of Algebra coursework, prior to grade 9 that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall satisfy the Algebra coursework but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete thirty credits of mathematics in grades 9-12.

Up to ten mathematics credits may be fulfilled by completing a UC/CSU approved Computer Science Course.

3. Two courses in Science, including a Biological and a Physical Science (20 credits). Beginning with the Class of 2023, three courses in Science, including both Biological and Physical Sciences (30 credits).
4. Three courses in Social Studies, including United States History and Geography, World History, Culture, and Geography; a one-semester course in American Government and Civics; and a one-semester course in Economics (30 credits).
5. One course in Visual or Performing Arts, Foreign Language (including American Sign Language) or Career Technical Education (10 credits).
6. Two courses in Physical Education unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (20 credits).

High School Graduation Requirements (continued)

7. Elective credits (65 credits; Beginning with the Class of 2023, 55 credits)

8. One semester Health course (5 credits).

Total 220 credits

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board of Education shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for Foster Youth, homeless or children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.1 and 47901.

Certificate of Credit Completion

The Individualized Education Plan may assign a student to a non-diploma course of study. A Certificate of Completion will be provided to students who have satisfactorily met their individual course of study during high school. Students completing a non-diploma program will be eligible to participate in the commencement ceremony and all other senior activities.

Legal Reference: Education Code

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| 51225.3  | Requirements for Graduation                 |
| 51228    | Minimum Standards                           |
| 56375(b) | Special Education-Certificates and Diplomas |
| AB1062   | (effective January 1, 2000)                 |

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PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 Paramount, California