

Graduation Requirements and Diploma with Honors

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS*

Lakota students need twenty (20) credits in order to earn a diploma. Specific requirements are as follows

SUBJECT AREA	LAKOTA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION	RECOMMENDED FOR COLLEGE ENTRANCE*
English	4 credits (English 9, 10, 11 and 1 credit of Senior English)	Colleges expect a full, rigorous course load for all 4 years of high school, with a concentration of coursework toward a specific degree or major. Most colleges also recommend two or more years of World Language.
Mathematics	4 credits (which must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or MMR, and 1 additional credit)	
Science	3 credits (1 Biological, 1 Physical, 1 elective)	
Social Studies	3 credits (which must include World Studies, American History, 1 semester Government, 1 semester Economics)	
Health	0.5 Credit (1 semester)	
Physical Education	0.5 Credit (2 semesters)	
Fine Arts	1 Credit (art, music, acting)	
Electives	4 credits (0.5 credit must be in Financial Literacy)	
Financial Literacy**	0.5 Credit (Financial Literacy or CCP Financial Literacy Course)	

* Students should check with the colleges and universities they are considering for specific entrance requirements. Many colleges expect and/or require additional requirements, beyond the 20 credits needed to graduate from Lakota Local Schools, to gain admissions at that college or university.

****Senate Bill 1 (2021) requires all students, starting 9th grade in the 2022-2023 school year and beyond, must complete a semester of Financial Literacy prior to graduation. Students must successfully complete this course or a College Credit Plus Financial Literacy course to graduate from high school.**

All students must earn at least 20 credits; specific requirements within those 20 credits are listed in the above chart. **A student must have completed all graduation requirements before participating in graduation ceremonies and/or receiving a diploma.**



Classes of 2023 and Beyond Graduation Requirements

State law introduced new, permanent graduation requirements for students in the class of 2023 and beyond. Students entering ninth grade after July 1, 2019, must meet the [new requirements](#) outlined in state law. Department staff are working to update the graduation webpages and guidance documents. Please check back often.

Handout: [Graduation Requirements for the classes of 2023 and Beyond](#)

AP Score Conversion to Graduation Points

Students in certain courses can take a substitute exam, such as an Advanced Placement (AP) exam, instead of the state's end-of-course exam. The State Board approved AP exams that may substitute for the following courses:

American History: AP United States History

American Government: AP United States Government and Politics

Biology: AP Biology

Advanced Placement Score	Graduation Points
4 or 5	5
3	4
2	3
1	1

College Credit Plus Courses

The following conversion chart should be used to determine the number of graduation points a student will receive based on the grade he/she receives for the CCP course that substitutes for Biology, American History, or American Government end-of-course exams.

CCP Grade	Graduation Points
A or B	5
C	4
D	3
F	0

Retaking Exams

A student who scores below proficient on any end-of-course State exam may retake the exam. The highest score the student gets on a test will count toward his/her graduation points.

CRITERIA: DIPLOMA WITH HONORS

Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2017 (class of 2021) must meet the new criteria. Go to link below for the most recent information from ODE.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Honors-Diplomas>

[Honors Criteria Grid](#)

GRADE PLACEMENT

All students will need to have earned the indicated number of credits for placement into the appropriate grade level.

CLASSIFICATION

Freshman.....Successful completion of grade 8

Sophomore.....4.5 credits

Junior.....10.0 credits

Senior.....15.0 credits

Students must have a minimum of 15 credits to be classified as seniors. Two groups of students may wish to be considered as seniors without the requisite 15 credits. These students must meet with their counselors in the early fall to create a written plan to meet graduation requirements. Two classifications will exist as follows:

JUNIORS PLANNING TO GRADUATE (JPG)

JPG students are in the junior year of high school, but plan to complete all requirements to graduate at the end of their third year of high school. This is not recommended by most colleges.

SENIORS/CREDIT DEFICIENT (SCD)

SCD students are in their fourth year of high school, but have not yet earned 15 credits.