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Governor, State of Hawai'i

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Graduation Requirements

for Hawai'i Public School Students



*If you have any questions regarding the graduation requirements,
please see your school counselor or principal.*

Keith T. Hayashi
Superintendent of Education

Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design
Hawai'i State Department of Education • July 2023

Graduation Requirements

GRADE POINT AVERAGE — Cumulative Grade Point Average applies to all graduates: Cum Laude: 3.0 to 3.5 | Magna Cum Laude: 3.5+ to 3.8 | Summa Cum Laude: 3.8+ and above

A Hawai'i High School Diploma shall be issued to students who meet these minimum course and credit requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS*	HAWAI'I HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
English	4.0 credits including: • English Language Arts 1 (1.0 credit); and • English Language Arts 2 (1.0 credit); and • Expository Writing** (0.5 credit); and • ELA Basic electives (1.5 credits)
Social Studies	4.0 credits including: • U.S. History and Government (1.0 credit), and • World History and Culture (1.0 credit); and • Modern History of Hawai'i (0.5 credit); and • Participation in a Democracy (0.5 credit); and • Social Studies basic elective (1.0 credit)
Mathematics	3.0 credits including: • Algebra 1 (1.0 credit); and • Geometry (1.0 credit); and • Mathematics basic elective (1.0 credit)
Science	3.0 credits including: • Biology 1 (1.0 credit); and • Science basic electives (2.0 credits)
World Language, Fine Arts, or Career & Technical Education (CTE)/JROTC	2.0 credits in one of the specified programs of study
Physical Education	1.0 credit including: • Physical Education Lifetime Fitness (0.5 credit); • Physical Education basic elective (0.5 credit)
Health	0.5 credit: Health Today & Tomorrow
Personal Transition Plan	0.5 credit
Electives	6.0 credits
TOTAL	24.0 credits

*The DOE has a process for requesting and approving equivalent credit courses.

** Or equivalent course.

HONORS RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to meeting the requirements for the Hawai'i High School Diploma, the following must be met with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above for a honors recognition certificate in one or more of the following:

ACADEMIC HONORS

Four credits of math: The four credits must include one credit for Algebra 2 and one credit beyond Algebra 2. The credit beyond Algebra 2 must be earned via the following courses or equivalent Running Start math courses: Algebra 3, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, Precalculus, Probability, Statistics, Introduction to College Mathematics, Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, IB Math Studies, or IB Math Standard Level

AND

Four credits of science: Of the four credits, one credit must be in Biology 1 or equivalent IB Biology, or AP Biology courses

AND

Two credits minimum from AP/IB /Running Start courses (equivalent to credits for two college courses).

World Language:

Two credits in a single World Language. Credits must be taken in sequence with consecutive course numbers in the study of one language.

OR

Fine Arts: Two credits in a Fine Arts discipline which includes Visual Arts and Performing Arts. Credits do not need to be in a single discipline.

OR

Career and Technical Education (CTE): Two credits in a single career pathway program of study sequence, OR
JROTC: Two consecutive JROTC courses fulfill two CTE credits for diploma requirements.

CTE HONORS

Complete a two-course sequence in an approved CTE program or program of study.

- Earn a B or better in each course of the two-course sequence; and
- Meet or exceed proficiency on a performance-based assessment for the corresponding program or program of study.

STEM HONORS

Four credits of math: The four credits must include one credit for Algebra 2 and one credit beyond Algebra 2. The credit beyond Algebra 2 must be earned via the following courses or equivalent Running Start math courses: Algebra 3, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, Precalculus, Probability, Statistics, Introduction to College Mathematics, Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, IB Math Studies, or IB Math Standard Level.

AND

Four credits of science: Of these, one credit must be in Biology 1 or equivalent IB Biology, or AP Biology courses.

AND

Successful completion of a STEM Capstone Project in one of the approved ACCN courses.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Students shall be permitted to participate in commencement if they:

- 1) meet the requirements for a diploma or certificate;
- 2) have fulfilled their financial obligations; and
- 3) meet other conditions, as established by the Department, which meet the standards of clarity, reasonableness and justifiability.

SEAL OF BILITERACY

Established by the Hawai'i State Board of Education to be awarded upon graduation to students who demonstrate:

- a high proficiency in both of the state's two official languages (English and Hawaiian) **OR**
- either of the state's two official languages and at least one additional language, including American Sign Language.

Please visit bit.ly/HISeal for the eligibility criteria and additional information.