

# ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Clarified May 2020

(Alabama Administrative Code 290-3-1-02(8) and (8)(a))

Effective for students in the ninth grade in the 2013-2014 school year, all students shall earn the required credits for the Alabama High School Diploma. A local board of education may establish requirements for receipt of diplomas and endorsements, but any diploma or endorsement shall include the requirements of the Alabama High School Diploma. The Alabama courses of study shall be followed in determining minimum required content in each discipline.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS			
English Language Arts	<b>Four credits to include:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
	English 9	1	
	English 10	1	
	English 11	1	
	English 12	1	
English Language Arts-credit eligible options may include: Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary courses/SDE-approved courses.			
<b>English Language Arts Total Credits</b>		<b>4</b>	
Mathematics	<b>Three credits to include:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
	Algebra I or its equivalent/substitute	1	
	Geometry or its equivalent/substitute	1	
	Algebra II w/Trigonometry or Algebra II, or its equivalent/substitute	1	
	Mathematics-credit eligible options may include: <i>Career and Technical Education</i> /Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary courses/SDE-approved courses.		
	<b>One credit from:</b> <i>Alabama Course of Study: Mathematics</i> or mathematics-credit eligible courses from Career and Technical Education/Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary courses/SDE-approved courses.	1	
<b>Mathematics Total Credits</b>		<b>4</b>	
Science	<b>Two credits to include:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
	Biology	1	
	A physical science (Chemistry, Physics, Physical Science)	1	
	Science-credit eligible options may include: Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary courses/SDE-approved courses.		
	<b>Two credits from:</b> <i>Alabama Course of Study: Science</i> or science-credit eligible courses from Career and Technical Education/Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary courses/SDE-approved courses.	2	
<b>Science Total Credits</b>		<b>4</b>	
Social Studies*	<b>Four credits to include:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	
	World History	1	
	United States History I	1	
	United States History II	1	
	United States Government	0.5	
	Economics	0.5	
Social Studies-credit eligible options may include: Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate/postsecondary courses/SDE-approved courses.			
<b>Civics Exam Requirement</b>	Effective with the 2018-2019 school year, students are required to earn a passing score on the <i>Civics Exam</i>		
<b>Social Studies Total Credits</b>		<b>4</b>	
<b>Physical Education</b>	Beginning Kinesiology <u>or</u> Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)	1	
<b>Health Education</b>		0.5	
<b>Career Preparedness</b>		1	
<b>Career and Technical Education (CTE) and/or Foreign Language and/or Arts Education</b>		3	
<b>Electives</b>		2.5	
*Distance Learning: Effective for students entering the ninth grade in the 2009-2010 school year, Alabama students will be required to complete one online/technology enhanced course or experience prior to graduation. Exceptions through Individualized Education Plans will be allowed.			
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>24</b>	