

POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Subject: High School Course Requirements for Graduation	Date Approved: June 19, 2001 January 17, 2006 September 19, 2006 May 16, 2017 July 17, 2018 Date Revised: December 13, 2005 August 15, 2006 May 16, 2017 June 19, 2018 Date Effective: January 17, 2006 September 19, 2006 May 30, 2017 July 17, 2018

1. PURPOSE

To establish standards for high school graduation requirements that will effectively prepare Somerset County Public School graduates for success in their chosen field beyond high school graduation.

2. POLICY

A. Credit and Course Requirements for Graduation

To meet the Somerset County graduation requirements, high school students must:

- 1) Meet the minimum number of the twenty-one (21) credits required for graduation as specified by the Maryland State Board of Education and the additional one (1) credit required by the Somerset County Board of Education for a total of twenty-two (22) credits. The Somerset County Board of Education requires an additional credit in contemporary issues.

Somerset County Board Of Education
Policy # 500-34
Page 2

(COMAR 13A.03.02.02.A) Beginning with students entering the 9th grade class of 2014-2015 school year, each student shall enroll in a mathematics course in each year of high school that the student attends, up to a maximum of 4 years of attendance. Students must earn a minimum of 3 math credits, but must be enrolled in a math course each year of attendance.

- 2) Complete the course requirements prescribed for a College & Career Pathway to Graduation.

See Administrative Procedures

B. Maryland State Assessments:

- 1) Students enrolled in HSA-aligned courses during 2016-2017 and beyond:

Government:

- Required to pass the course AND pass the HSA, achieve an approved combined score, or satisfy the requirement via the Bridge Plan

- 2) Students enrolled in PARCC-aligned courses for the first time during 2016-2017 and beyond:

Algebra I:

- Required to pass the course AND pass either the PARCC Algebra I assessment, the PARCC Algebra re-test or the Bridge Plan

English 10 or PARCC-aligned course:

- Required to pass the course AND pass either the PARCC English 10 assessment, the PARCC English 10 re-test or the Bridge Plan

- 3) Student enrolled in MISA – aligned courses for the first time during 2017-2018 and beyond:

MISA Science

- a. 2017-2018 Required to pass the course AND take the MISA science assessment
- b. 2018-2019 Required to pass the course AND take the MISA science assessment

- c. 2019-2020 Required to pass the course AND pass the MISA science assessment; or re-test and pass the MISA; or complete the appropriate Bridge Plan.

It is important to note the according to COMAR 13A.03.02, students must take the assessment twice before submitting the Bridge Academic Validation Plan.

C. The College & Career Pathways to Graduation.

See Administrative Procedures

- 1. Minimum Entrance Requirements for University of Maryland System
- 2. Advanced Technology Completer
- 3. State Approved Career & Technology Program

D. Recognition of Distinguished Student Achievement at Graduation Ceremony

A special recognition of students who have met the Distinguished Student Achievement requirements will be provided with a certificate at the graduation ceremony at each high school.

See Administrative Procedures