

The following requirements were written with the intention of preparing our students for success in a variety of experiences after high school. While these requirements align to the entrance requirements for the state universities of Illinois, they were also written to prepare students for a variety of careers right out of high school. There is much flexibility in the exact courses that schools offer and students take to meet these requirements. To see how all courses in the CPS catalog align to the graduation requirements below, please visit: http://www.chooseyourfuture.org/sites/default/files/academic_planner_counselor_documentation.xlsx

SUBJECT AREA	CREDITS REQUIRED*	DESCRIPTION
English	4	Several English courses meet the English I, II, III, and IV requirements.
Mathematics	3	The typical sequence is Algebra, Geometry, Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry.
Science	3	Biology is required along with two additional credits of laboratory science from the following options: Chemistry, Earth/Space Science, Environmental Science, or Physics.
Social Science	3	World Studies and U.S. History are required along with one additional Social Science course.
World Language	2	Two years of the same world language are required.
Fine Arts	2	One full credit is required in two of the following four categories: Music, Theatre/Drama, Dance, Visual Art/Drafting. A student cannot meet this requirement by earning two credits in the same category.
Physical Education	2	Two credits of PE are required, one in 9 th grade and one in 10 th , with Health included in one semester of PE I and Driver's Education as one semester of PE II. ROTC I and II may take the place of PE I and II.
Advanced Academic Option / Career Education / ROTC	2	Advanced Academics are courses in a core subject area that are not aligned to the above graduation requirements or meet those already satisfied by the student. CTE programs will satisfy this requirement, as will ROTC III and IV.
Electives	3	Most courses that are in the catalog will meet the Elective requirement. Electives should be chosen with student's future goals in mind (see Course of Study maps).
TOTAL	24 Credits	
Non-Credit Bearing Requirements		
Service Learning		Students must complete a minimum of 40 service-learning hours. Based on their school of attendance, students must complete 1 classroom-integrated project and 25 individual hours; 2 classroom-integrated projects and 15 individual hours; or 3 classroom-integrated projects. Students must complete one project or 20 hours by the end of sophomore year in order to be promoted to junior status.
Consumer Education		Students must complete a course that integrates Consumer Education curriculum. This content is covered in many Elective classes.
Public Law 195		Students must pass a test in which they demonstrate knowledge of the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions. This is often part of the U.S. History curriculum.
PSAE		Students must take the PSAE in order to graduate. All 11 th grade students in CPS take the test.

*Note that in most cases 1 credit is equivalent to 1 year in a particular course, though there are courses in which 1 credit may be earned in a single semester.

NOTE: Drivers Education is required for all students.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS — If you are an English Language Learner (ELL), you will take English as a Second Language (ESL) and any courses taught in English, that are aligned to academic standards but with a sheltered English approach for ELLs. Please note that ESL I, II, III and Transitional English/Survey of Literature for ELLs classes satisfy the four years of English required for graduation. Your English language development level (based on your screener or ACCESS score) will determine your placement in the ESL course sequence. If you are enrolled in a Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) program, you will also receive native language instruction in the other subject areas as needed. If you are in Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) you will receive sheltered English instruction in all subject areas and might receive native language support from your teachers or tutors, if available.

STUDENTS WITH IEPs — If you are receiving special education services, your Individualized Education Plan (IEP) may specify any unique circumstances regarding grading, promotion, or graduation criteria. This decision is determined by your IEP team, inclusive of you, your parents, and your teachers. If you are an ELL with an IEP then your English Language Proficiency will determine the language acquisition model services you will receive.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE — Below is just a general example and your actual schedule may look different; it will depend on your school's course selection and your particular goals and interests. Further, individual schools have the flexibility to make schedule adjustments to better serve its students and accommodate for various programs. You should consult with your school counselor to determine the most appropriate schedule that will further long-term goals. Further information can also be found online at chooseyourfuture.org.

Subject Area	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
English	i. English I ii. ESL I	i. English II ii. ESL II	i. English III ii. ESL III	i. English IV ii. Transitional English/Survey of Lit for ELLs
Math	Algebra	Geometry	Advanced Algebra & Trig	<i>See Electives</i>
Science	Biology	i. Chemistry ii. Enviro Sci iii. Physics iv. Earth & Space Sci	i. Chemistry ii. Enviro Sci iii. Physics iv. Earth & Space Sci	<i>See Electives</i>
Social Science	World Studies	US History		Social Science Elective
World Language		World Language I	World Language II	<i>See Electives</i>
Fine Arts	Fine Arts I		Fine Arts II	<i>See Electives</i>
Physical Education	i. P.E. I / Health ii. ROTC I	i. P.E. II / Driver's Ed ii. ROTC II		<i>See Electives</i>
Career Education / ROTC / Advanced Academic Option / Dual Enrollment Program			i. Career Ed I ii. ROTC III	i. Career Ed II ii. ROTC IV
Electives				Choose 3 (Sample Options Below): i. Mathematics Course ii. Science Course iii. World Lang III iv. Fine Arts Elective v. Career Ed Elective vi. P.E. Elective

Please note: You might be able to transfer credits from your previous school that could apply and satisfy core courses credits and/or electives. If you have transferred from a school in another country, you should call (773) 553-1930 to make an appointment with Beata Arceo for foreign transcript evaluation.

Notes:

- 1) There are additional non-credit bearing graduation requirements. These are: 1) Service Learning - Students must complete a minimum of 40 service-learning hours. Based on their school of attendance, students must complete 1 classroom-integrated project and 25 individual hours; 2) classroom-integrated projects and 15 individual hours; or 3) classroom-integrated projects. Students must complete one project or 20 hours by the end of sophomore year in order to be promoted to junior status; 2) Consumer Education - Complete a course integrating consumer education curriculum; 3) Public Law 195 - Demonstrate knowledge of U.S. and Illinois constitutions as part of subject-area curricula and/or Constitution test; and 4) PS AE - Public Act 93857 requires students to take the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) as a condition for receiving a regular high school diploma.
- 2) The recommendation for students enrolled in the Career & Technical Education (CTE) program would be to start taking Career Ed courses starting in 10th grade as many CTE courses of study are 3 years in length.
- 3) Advanced academics, and the Dual Enrollment Program, may be substituted for the Career Ed / ROTC requirement to meet the graduation requirements. Examples of Advanced Academics include additional language, science, mathematics, English, or Fine Arts courses. The Dual Enrollment program allows motivated CPS high school junior and senior students the opportunity to earn college credits while attending high school; the credits earned are transferable to many four-year colleges or universities.