

## Diploma Requirements Procedure (Class of 2017 and later)

Hoover City Schools

September 2013

**Note:** *These requirements apply to students who enrolled in the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) grade during the 2013-14 school year or later.*

### Graduation Credential Options

The following sections describe the options for earning a graduation credential which will allow a student to participate in commencement exercises. These options include the Alabama Graduation Certification and the Alabama High School Diploma (with or without specific endorsements).

#### Alabama Graduation Certificate

A student with a disability as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act may be presented with an Alabama Graduation Certificate when the student is unable to complete the requirements for a diploma but has earned 24.0 credits or completed the Individualized Education Plan. Eligible students will be allowed to participate in graduation commencement exercises.

#### Alabama High School Diploma (AHSD)

The graduation requirements for Hoover City Schools must meet at a minimum the criteria specified by the Alabama board of education, but the superintendent, with local board approval, has the right to impose higher standards if he or she so chooses. The following information will specify all current minimum requirements for students enrolled in Hoover City Schools:

#### *Alabama High School Diploma Requirements*

Areas of Study	Requirements	Credits
English Language Arts	English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12 <i>Substitutes:</i> Any AP/IB/post-secondary equivalent options <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> English Essentials 9-12, AAS English 9-12	4.0
Mathematics	Algebra 1 ( <i>May be taken as Algebra 1-A and 1-B</i> ) Geometry Algebra 2 w/Trig or Algebra 2 or equivalent CTE option Additional courses must be chosen from the AL COS: Math <i>Substitutes:</i> Any CTE/AP/IB/post-secondary equivalent options	4.0

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Areas of Study	Requirements	Credits
	<i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> Algebraic Concepts, Algebraic Essentials A/B, Geometry Essentials A/B	
Science	Biology A physical science (Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics) Additional courses must be chosen from the AL COS: Science <i>Substitutes:</i> Any CTE/AP/IB/post-secondary equivalent options <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> Life Skills Science I-IV, AAS Science 9-12	4.0
Social Studies	World History 9 US History 10 US History 11 Government / Economics <i>Substitutes:</i> Any AP/IB/post-secondary equivalent options <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> ...For Living 9-12, AAS Social Studies 9-12	4.0
Physical Education	LIFE (Physical Fitness) <i>Substitutes:</i> One JROTC credit <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> Adapted Physical Education	1.0
Health Education	Health Education <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> AAS Pre-Vocational, AAS Vocational, AAS Community Based Instruction, and/or AAS Elective Course	0.5
Career Preparedness	Career Preparedness Course <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> AAS Life Skills	1.0
Career Technical Education, Foreign Language, and Arts	Students choose any combination of Career Technical Education, Arts Education, and/or Foreign Language courses <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> Students earning core credit through the Essentials/Life Skills courses are required to complete two CTE courses in a sequence and Workforce Essentials (Transition Services II can substitute if Workforce Essentials is not offered), AAS Life Skills	3.0
Electives	Any other state or locally approved elective courses <i>Substitutes (Ess/AAS):</i> Students earning core credit through the Essentials/Life Skills courses are required to take Cooperative Education Seminar/Work-Based Experience (or Life Skills Occupational Preparation in systems that do not have a Coop program); AAS Pre-Vocational, AAS Vocational, AAS Community Based Instruction, and/or AAS Elective Course	2.5
<b>Total Credits Required for Graduation-</b>		<b>24.0</b>

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## *High School Diploma Endorsements*

Students may earn an optional high school diploma endorsement according to criteria authorized by a local board of education. Hoover City Schools has only authorized one additional endorsement to recognize students who voluntarily pursue a sequence of courses which is substantially more rigorous than the minimum graduation requirements.

- **Hoover City Schools Seal of Scholastic Excellence**

- At least four (4.0) credits that meet one of the following criteria:
  - Two (2.0) credits of a foreign language in the same language and two (2.0) credits in a college-level course (i.e., Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment classes), or
  - Three (3.0) credits of a foreign language in the same language and one (1.0) credit in a college-level course (i.e., Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment classes)
- At least two (2.0) credits of science that meet one of the following criteria:
  - One (1.0) credit in Chemistry and one (1.0) credit in Physics, or
  - One (1.0) credit in Integrated Chemistry / Physics, Pre-AP and one (1.0) credit in an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate science course
- At least one (1.0) credit in math at the Precalculus level
- Cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher
- A minimum of 28.0 earned total credits