



# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

*Graduation requirements to earn a Maryland High School diploma for students entering ninth grade for the first time in school year 2005–2006 and thereafter*

*(Class of 2009 and thereafter) are as follows:*

SUBJECT AREA	SPECIFIC CREDIT REQUIREMENTS	HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS
English	4 credits	Beginning with the 2001–2002 school year, all students (including middle school students who take high school level courses) shall take the Maryland High School Assessment for English 10* (passing score 396), Algebra/Data Analysis* (passing score 412), Biology* (passing score 400) and Government (passing score 394), after the student completes the appropriate course. In order to be eligible for graduation, the student must achieve one of the following:  <b>(1)</b> Pass each of the four High School Assessment (HSA) tests. There are two potential substitutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) Tests—for students who have earned a score approved by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) on the HSA-related AP or IB test</li> <li>• Modified HSA—an alternative test for students with disabilities who meet the specific participation criteria based on their IEP process;</li> </ul> <b>(2)</b> Combined-Score Option—for students who have earned a combined score of 1602 on the four HSA tests; or <b>(3)</b> Bridge Plan for Academic Validation—for students who meet eligibility criteria.
Mathematics	3 credits √ 1 in Algebra/Data Analysis √ 1 in Geometry √ 1 additional mathematics credit	
Science	3 credits √ 1 in Biology √ 2 additional credits that must include laboratory experience in any or all of the following areas: earth science, life science, physical science	
Social Studies	3 credits √ 1 in U.S. History √ 1 in Local, State, National Government √ 1 in World History	

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Fine Arts	1 credit
Physical Education	.50 credit √ For students entering the 9 <sup>th</sup> grade for the first time in 2008–2009 (class of 2012 and thereafter) Your Personal Fitness 1 will be mandatory to fulfill the Physical Education graduation requirement.
Health	.50 credit
Technology Education	1 credit
Completer** and Electives	<b>2 credits</b> of either Foreign Language or American Sign Language (class of 2008 and beyond) (both credits must be in the same language per local requirements) <b>and</b> 3 credits in electives <b>OR 2 credits</b> of Advanced Technology Education <b>and</b> 3 credits in electives <b>OR Complete</b> (4–9 credits) a State-Approved Career and Technology Education (CTE) program <b>and</b> any remaining credits in electives

**Credits:** Twenty-one (21) credits are required. Per COMAR 13A.03.02.01C, PGCPSS has notified MSDE that four (4) credits must be earned after completion of Grade 11.

**Enrollment Requirement:** The student shall satisfactorily complete four years of approved study beyond the 8th grade unless on an approved option.

**Student Service-Learning:** The student shall complete a locally-developed, state-approved program that includes service learning infusion in designated courses, preparation, reflection and a specified number of hours of independent service.

\*No Child Left Behind (NCLB) assessment courses

\*\*Completer refers to a specified sequence of courses required for completing graduation requirements.