

Phenix City Public Schools

Diploma Options and Requirements

Over the last few years, Alabama's gradual strengthening of its high school graduation requirements has resulted in more academically and economically competitive graduates. Another benefit of the increased academic standards is a more meaningful Alabama high school diploma for the state's graduates.

Effective for students beginning 9th grade during the 2008-09 school year, incoming freshmen will be placed on the Advanced Academic Endorsement Option. These students are expected to work toward this option. In order to alter this endorsement, a written statement must be submitted by the parent or guardian. This statement may be submitted at any time during the student's high school career.

Along with the more stringent graduation requirements, **students now have five options when completing their high school education--three diplomas and two endorsements**--approved by the State Board of Education.

Each of these options requires Central High School students to earn **28 credits**.

1-Alabama High School Diploma with Advanced Academic Endorsement

- ◆ Requires student to pass the AHSGE
- ◆ 4 credits in English Language Arts
- ◆ 4 credits in Mathematics, to include Pre-Cal/Trig or Algebra III
- ◆ 4 credits in Science, including Biology, and a physical science
- ◆ 4 credits in Social Studies
- ◆ 1 credit in Life
- ◆ 1 credit in Health Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Fine Arts Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Computer Applications
- ◆ 2 credits in the same Foreign Language
- ◆ 6 elective credits

Effective for the 2011-2012 graduating class this diploma will become the Alabama High School Diploma with Advanced Academic Endorsement with Honors.

2-Alabama High School Diploma with Career/Technical Endorsement

- ◆ Requires student to pass the AHSGE
- ◆ 4 credits in English Language Arts
- ◆ 4 credits in Mathematics including Algebra I and Geometry
- ◆ 4 credits in Science including Biology and a physical science
- ◆ 4 credits in Social Studies
- ◆ 1 credit in Life
- ◆ 1 credit in Health Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Fine Arts Education

- ◆ 1 credit in Computer Applications
- ◆ 4 credits in Career/Technical Education (sequenced program of courses)
- ◆ 4 elective credits

3-Alabama High School Standard Diploma

- ◆ Requires students to pass the Alabama High School Graduation Exam (AHSGE)
- ◆ 4 credits in English Language Arts
- ◆ 4 credits in Mathematics, including Algebra I and Geometry
- ◆ 4 credits in Science, including Biology, and a physical science
- ◆ 4 credits in Social Studies
- ◆ 1 credit in Life
- ◆ 1 credit in Health Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Fine Arts Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Computer Applications
- ◆ 8 elective credits

4-Alabama High School Credit-Based Endorsement

- ◆ Requires students to pass the **Reading, Math and one additional section of the Alabama High School Graduation Exam** (AHSGE)
- ◆ 4 credits in English Language Arts
- ◆ 4 credits in Mathematics, including Algebra I and Geometry
- ◆ 4 credits in Science, including Biology, and a physical science
- ◆ 4 credits in Social Studies
- ◆ 1 credit in Life
- ◆ 1 credit in Health Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Fine Arts Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Computer Applications
- ◆ 8 elective credits

5-Alabama Occupational Diploma

- ◆ Requires student to successfully complete approved occupational portfolio
- ◆ 4 credits in English Language Arts (Employment English I, II, & III, IV)
- ◆ 4 credits in Mathematics (Algebraic Explorations I & II and Essential Mathematics I & II)
- ◆ 4 credits in Science (Life Skills Science I: Physical Science, Life Skills Science II: Biology, Life Skills Science III: Earth & Space Science, Life Skills Science IV: Environmental Science)
- ◆ 4 credits in Social Studies (World History for Living, United States History for Living I, United States History for Living II, Economics and Government for Living)
- ◆ 2 credits in Career/Technical Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Cooperative Career/Technical Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Life
- ◆ 1 credit in Health Education
- ◆ 1 credit in Fine Arts Education
- ◆ 6 elective credits