



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY BULLETIN

TITLE: Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Class of 2015

NUMBER: BUL-6576

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Division of Instruction

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ROUTING

Local District Superintendent
Local District Administrators,
Instructional Services
Local District Directors
Principals
Local District Counseling
Coordinators
Assistant Principals
Secondary School Guidance
Coordinators

MAJOR CHANGES: This bulletin replaces BUL-5186.0, *Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Classes of 2014 and 2015*, dated February 11, 2011 for the class of 2015 only. The content has been revised to reflect the waivers that were provided to all students in the class of 2015 in the areas of Applied Technology, Computer Literacy, Service Learning, Physical Education, and the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE).

This Bulletin also provides updated guidance for students with disabilities with an IEP, English learners, and foster youth from the class of 2015 who need extended time to complete graduation requirements.

GUIDELINES: I. INTRODUCTION

On June 14, 2005, the Board of Education approved a Resolution to create educational equity through the implementation of the A-G course sequence as part of the high school graduation requirement. The A-G Resolution establishes a graduation requirement for all students to complete an A-G, fifteen-course college preparatory sequence beginning fall 2012 in order to graduate from the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). All students are now required to be enrolled in the A-G course sequence.

All ninth grade students who entered an LAUSD high school in Fall 2008 (graduating class of 2012 and thereafter) must be enrolled in a complete sequence of A-G courses. Beginning with the spring semester of tenth grade, students and their parents are permitted to request a course substitution waiver of the A-G course requirements for high school graduation (Attachment A). Waivers will be available to students who are opting out of the 3rd year of math or the world languages sequence only. Only A-G courses may be substituted for the opted out course(s). The school will inform the students and parents/guardians of all the implications relating to college admission and



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other post secondary opportunities. Each student will establish a high school course plan and a career pathway with their parent/guardian and the school counselor. This process will apply to the graduating class of 2015.

Beginning with entering 9th grade students on July 1, 2012 and thereafter (graduating class of 2016 and beyond) students must be enrolled in the fifteen-course college preparatory A-G sequence and must complete these courses with a passing grade of “D” or better for high school graduation, and “C” or better to meet the minimum University of California (UC)/California State University (CSU) requirement.

On August 26, 2015, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill 725 into law. This emergency bill allows for high school seniors from the class of 2015 who have completed all other graduation requirements to receive a high school diploma without having to pass the CAHSEE.

Superintendent Ramon Cortines provided waivers for the Applied Technology, Computer Literacy, and Service Learning requirements. He also temporarily expanded the list of courses that count towards the Physical Education requirement for the class of 2015 only.

II. A-G CLARIFICATION

At this time, per the Board Resolution, all students will be enrolled in courses that meet the A-G requirements. Below please find information regarding ESL, mathematics, world languages, and visual and performing arts.

- ESL 3 and 4 are the only ESL classes that replace a core class (English 9AB) for graduation credit and A-G; however, it is critical that students re-classify and transition to the core curriculum as soon as possible.
- Students should be enrolled in three years of A-G and CST testable mathematics courses in grades 9 through 11. The minimum required courses are Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. The option of enrollment in Advanced Applied Math as a replacement for Geometry for high school graduation shall only be made available to students in 12th grade who have taken and not passed Geometry.
- World languages and visual and performing arts courses are limited in availability and may be completed anytime during a four-year high school period. Every effort should be made to meet students’ requests for a specific A-G course during a specific year. The counselor with the student and parent/guardian shall determine the best time for taking



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world languages and cultures and visual and performing arts courses based on the student's abilities, interests, and post-secondary plans. The two-year enrollment requirement for world language courses may begin in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade.

A third year of a world language is strongly recommended for admission to a university.

Students may take the Spanish Equivalency Examination to determine proficiency levels and may earn 10 credits, which may be applied toward A-G enrollment (See Bulletin, BUL-4723.1, [Procedures for Administering Spanish Equivalency Test and Guidelines for Placement](#), dated May 27, 2010).

- Samples of a Middle School and High School schedule that satisfy the A-G requirements are included; refer to Attachments B and C respectively. For a sample of High School course enrollment, refer to Attachment C.

III. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students graduating from high school in 2015 must meet the following graduation requirements:

A. Satisfactory completion of 230 credits

Core Curriculum	155 credits (See below)
Elective Courses	<u>75</u> credits
Total Credits	230 credits

B. Satisfactory completion of all courses in the required core curriculum:

English	40 credits
College Preparatory Math	20 credits
Laboratory Science	
Biological Science	10 credits
Physical Science	10 credits
Social Science	30 credits
Visual and Performing Arts	10 credits
Applied Technology*	10 credits
Health**	5 credits
Physical Education	<u>20</u> credits
Total Credits-Core Curriculum	155 credits

*See Reference Guide REF-912, [Applied Technology Graduation Requirement](#), dated April 12, 2004, for the approved courses. This course



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requirement is waived for all students who receive a total of 230 credits.

****Options to fulfill Health:**

- The health requirement must be met by passing a five-credit health course that may be taken at any time during grades 9-12.
- Take the District online Health course. For procedures to online courses, go to onlinelearning.lausd.net.
- Take Health, if offered, in summer school.
- Take an equivalent and pre-approved adult or college class.

C. Non-course requirements:

The Applied Technology, Computer Literacy, and Service Learning requirements have been waived for students in the class of 2015.

Passage of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) has been waived for students in the class of 2015

IV. NUMBER OF COURSES REQUIRED EACH SEMESTER

The District expects all students to enroll in a full schedule, consisting of 240 minutes minimum per school day, each semester of high school in order to maximize learning opportunities.

California Education Code Section 46146 requires the equivalent of five classes for a senior except when, with approval of the school principal or designee, they are enrolled for enrichment in a community college or state college or university. When enrolled in enrichment coursework, the Ed Code 46146 does allow a minimum of 180 minutes of attendance.

Ed Code 46147 allows a 12th grade pupil in the last semester before graduation that will complete all requirements and is enrolled in a work experience program to attend school for less than 180 minutes each day.

V. CREDITS FOR SCHOOL SERVICE

School Service class is only available to seniors who are on-track to graduate with their "Class of" year, have completed A-G requirements through 11th grade, and are enrolled in a full schedule to meet the A-G requirements in the 12th grade.

VI. CREDITS TO PROMOTE

Students will need to earn the credits listed below in order to promote to the indicated grade level:



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- 10th grade 55 credits
- 11th grade 110 credits
- 12th grade 170 credits
- Eligible for a high school diploma 230 credits

Grade level promotions are to be made at the beginning of the fall semester once summer school/intersession course credits have been confirmed. All grade level promotions are to be completed by the fall semester norm day. Eleventh grade students who have earned 200 credits (or 190 credits for students attending 4 X 4 schools) by the beginning of the spring semester and who are on track to graduate at the end of the spring semester may be promoted to twelfth grade. Students must earn the appropriate number of credits in order to promote to the next grade level.

VII. YEAR OF THE DIPLOMA

Students must meet the graduation requirements of the year listed on their diploma. Refer to REF-1963.0, [*Graduation Year Guidelines to Determine Requirements for the Diploma and for SIS Records*](#), dated December 12, 2005, for additional information.

Students with disabilities with an IEP, English Learners, and foster youth in the Class of 2015 may request to extend their year of graduation. Students with disabilities with an IEP, English learners, and foster youth who need extended time [e.g., additional semester(s) or year(s)] to complete the coursework will be held to the graduation requirements of their original graduation class year. Students with disabilities who extend their year of graduation must remain eligible for special education services throughout their enrollment in LAUSD in order to be eligible for this extension. Students with Section 504 plans are not eligible. For students requesting this extension, the graduation year in MiSiS must remain 2015 in order for the records to reflect the graduation requirements for their original graduation class year.

VIII. SUBSTITUTION OF A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Students are expected to complete all graduation requirements. All students must have made every attempt to complete all graduation requirements, including taking a full class schedule each semester and taking advantage of summer or intersession opportunities. Students who fail a course required for graduation must repeat that course. In order to meet the graduation requirements, students graduating in 2015 may request a wavier for



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enrollment in the third year of math or the World Language requirement by using the “Request to Substitute a Course for a Graduation/Enrollment Requirement,” Attachment A. Principals may approve up to 20 credits of substituted course work.

IX. PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Students are required to complete 20 credits of physical education for graduation. Students in grade 9 are to be enrolled in one of the following: Physical Education course one (ADV PE 1AB), Physical Education course two (ADV PE 2AB), or compete on an authorized interscholastic athletic school team that takes place during the school day. A waiver has been created for the class of 2015 to allow students who complete a dance course, an athletic team course, or an ROTC course to use these courses to count towards the Physical Education requirement. All 9th grade students are to take and pass requirements on the *Fitnessgram*. If a 9th grade student does not pass the *Fitnessgram*, the student must be enrolled in the 10th grade in one of the following physical education courses: Physical Education course one (ADV PE 1AB) or Physical Education course two (ADV PE 2AB), whichever the student did not complete in the 9th grade, or compete on an authorized interscholastic athletic school team that takes place during the day. All 10th grade students must be given an opportunity to retake the *Fitnessgram* and pass the requirement for any assessment that the student did not pass in the 9th grade. If a 10th grade student still does not pass the requirement on the *Fitnessgram*, the student must be enrolled into a physical education elective in Grades 11 – 12, until the *Fitnessgram* requirements are fulfilled. However, passing the *Fitnessgram* is not a graduation requirement. See Bulletin-2528.1, [Physical Education Programs – Grades K-12](#), dated December 11, 2009, for specific information.

X. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities with an IEP working toward a diploma are required to meet the same graduation standards as their non-disabled peers by completing all general education course, non-course, and credit requirements. Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams may develop accommodations and/or modifications needed by the student to successfully access the curriculum, instruction, and/or assessment.

XI. STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE

On October 11, 2009, AB 167 was passed and approved by the Governor to amend Section 51225.3 of the Education Code, relating to high school graduation. The bill states in part, “A school district shall exempt a pupil in



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foster care from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the governing board of the district that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements specified in this section if the pupil, while he or she is in Grade 11 or 12, transfers into the district from another school district or between high schools within the district, unless the district makes a finding that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the additional requirements in time to graduate from high school while he or she remains eligible for foster care benefits pursuant to state law. A school district shall notify a pupil in foster care who is granted an exemption pursuant to this subdivision, and, as appropriate, the person holding the right to make educational decisions for the pupil, if any of the requirements that are waived will affect the pupil's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and shall provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.”

The State’s graduation requirements are the following numbers of courses in the subjects specified, each course having a duration of one year, unless otherwise specified:

- (A) Three courses in English.
- (B) Two courses in mathematics.
- (C) Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences.
- (D) Three courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics.
- (E) One course in visual or performing arts or foreign language.
- (F) Two courses in physical education, unless the pupil has been exempted pursuant to the provisions of this code.

If the Principal, or designee, and the Counselor determine that a student in foster care has met the requirements listed in AB 167 and will graduate and receive a diploma meeting the state’s requirements, annotate the cumulative record to reflect this and include a note in MiSiS.

- ATTACHMENT:**
- Attachment A – Request to Substitute a Course for a Graduation/Enrollment Requirement for Graduating Classes of 2015
 - Attachment B – Model of Middle School Schedule to Meet Promotion Requirements
 - Attachment C – Model of High School Schedule to Meet Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Classes of 2014-2015
 - Attachment D – 2015 Graduation Requirements and Minimum College Admission “A-G” Requirements



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ASSISTANCE: For additional information, contact your Local District Counseling Coordinator at the following Local Districts:

- Local District Central (213) 241-0100
- Local District East (323) 224-3100
- Local District Northeast (818) 252-5400
- Local District Northwest (818) 654-3600
- Local District South (310) 354-3400
- Local District West (310) 914-2100
-

or you may call the Office of College and Career Education at 213-241-7510



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Attachment A

REQUEST TO SUBSTITUTE A COURSE FOR A GRADUATION/ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT FOR THE GRADUATING CLASSES OF 2015

Student Name: _____ Date of birth: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____ Local District: _____

Students are expected to complete all graduation requirements. All students must have made every attempt to complete all graduation requirements including taking a full class schedule each semester and taking advantage of summer or intersession opportunities. Students who receive a mark of “fail” in a course required for graduation must repeat that course.

Students may request a wavier of enrollment for the third year of math or the World Language requirement by using this form “Request to Substitute a Course for Graduation/Enrollment Requirement.” Principals may approve up to 20 credits of substituted course work to meet graduation requirements. Principals may not approve a substitute for a state requirement as listed in the California Education Code. Only A-G courses maybe substituted for the opted out course(s).

Required Course Title: _____ Credits: _____

Course to be substituted: _____ Credits: _____

Reason: _____

Required Course Title: _____ Credits: _____

Course to be substituted: _____ Credits: _____

Reason: _____

Counselor’s Signature _____ Date

_____ Approved _____ Not Approved

Principal’s Signature _____ Date

_____ Approved _____ Not Approved

Parent’s Signature _____ Date

Return to the Counselor at the sending school for appropriate recording.

____ Credit Clerk - Original in cum record _____ Student’s copy _____ Counselor’s copy

____ Appropriate documentation entered into the student’s electronic record (MiSiS).



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Attachment B

Model of Middle School Schedule to Meet Promotion Requirements

SUBJECT	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
History/Social Science	World History Geography: Ancient Civilizations AB	World History Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times AB	US History Geography and Culture AB
English	English 6 AB or ESL	English 7 AB or ESL	English 8 AB or ESL
Mathematics	Math 6 AB	Math 7 AB or Algebra 1 AB	Algebra Readiness AB or Algebra 1 AB or Geometry AB
Science	Science/Health 6 AB	Science 7 and Health	Science 8 AB
Electives	Select courses offered at the school from the following areas: Social Studies English Mathematics Science World Languages Visual and Performing Arts Applied Technology		
Physical Education	Introduction to PE AB	Beginning PE AB	Intermediate PE AB



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Attachment C

Model of High School Schedule to Meet Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Classes of 2015

SUBJECT	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
History/ Social Science		World History and Geography: Modern World AB or AP World History AB (<i>"A" Requirement</i>)	US History AB or AP US History AB (<i>"A" Requirement</i>)	Principles of American Democracy or AP Government & Politics (<i>"A" Requirement</i>) Economics or AP Economics (<i>"G" Requirement</i>)
English	English 9 AB (<i>"B" Requirement</i>)	English 10 AB (<i>"B" Requirement</i>)	American Literature & Contemporary Composition or AP English Language & Composition AB (<i>"B" Requirement</i>)	One semester Expository Composition or Advanced Composition and one semester approved literature course or Expository Reading & Writing AB or AP English Literature & Composition AB or AP English Language & Composition AB (<i>"B" requirement</i>)*
Mathematics	Algebra 1 AB or Geometry AB or Algebra 2 AB (<i>"C" Requirement</i>)	Geometry AB or Algebra 2 AB or Trigonometry/Math Analysis or Math Analysis AB (<i>"C" Requirement</i>)	Algebra 2 AB or Trigonometry/Math Analysis or Math Analysis AB or Statistics AB (If Geometry and Algebra 2 have been taken and passed) AP Calculus AB or BC AP Statistics AB (<i>"C" Requirement and CST Requirement</i>)	Trigonometry/Math Analysis or Math Analysis AB or AP Calculus AB or BC or AP Statistics AB (<i>"C" Requirement</i>)
Science	Integrated/Coordinated Science 1AB (<i>"G" Requirement</i>) or Biology AB (<i>"D" Requirement</i>)	Biology AB or AP Biology AB Chemistry AB or AP Chemistry AB or Integrated/Coordinated Science 2AB (<i>"D" Requirement</i>)	Chemistry AB or AP Chemistry AB Physics AB or AP Physics AB or Integrated/Coordinated Science 3AB (<i>"D" Requirement and CST Requirement</i>)	AP Biology AB or Chemistry AB or AP Chemistry AB Physics AB or AP Physics AB or AP Physics BC or Integrated/Coordinated Science 3AB (<i>"D" Requirement</i>)

*For further information, please refer to the Guidelines for Standards-Based Instruction.



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Attachment C

Model of High School Schedule to Meet Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Classes of 2015 (Continue)

SUBJECT	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
World Languages	World Language courses (minimum 2 years, level 1 - AP) (<i>"E" Requirement</i>)	←→	←→	←→
Visual and Performing Arts	Visual and Performing Arts courses (minimum 1 year, AP available) (<i>"F" Requirement</i>)	←→	←→	←→
Applied Technology	Applied Technology courses (minimum 1 year, AP available) (<i>LAUSD Requirement</i>)	←→	←→	←→
Health	Health (<i>LAUSD Requirement</i>) Requirement may be met using one of the approved options.	←→	←→	←→
Physical Education	Advanced Physical Education 1AB (<i>LAUSD Requirement</i>)	Advanced Physical Education 2AB (<i>LAUSD Requirement</i>)	If <i>Fitnessgram</i> is not passed, student must enroll in a Physical Education course (<i>LAUSD Requirement</i>)	If <i>Fitnessgram</i> is not passed, student must enroll in a Physical Education course (<i>LAUSD Requirement</i>)
		If <i>Fitnessgram</i> is passed, Advanced Physical Education 2AB can be taken in Grades 10, 11 or 12	←→	←→
Additional Requirements	Computer Literacy demonstrated Service Learning completed Career Pathway identified	←→	←→	←→



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Attachment D

Los Angeles Unified School District

2015 Graduation Requirements and Minimum College Admission “A-G” Requirements

SUBJECT	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION Grades 9 – 12 <i>Students must be enrolled in “A-G” course requirements</i> <i>230 credits needed to graduate</i>	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA “A-G” Requirements <i>Grades of C or better</i>	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY “A-G” Requirements <i>Grades of C or better</i>	PRIVATE COLLEGES <i>Grades of C or better</i>	COMMUNITY COLLEGES <i>Grades of C or better</i>
Social Studies “A” Requirement	30 credits World History and Geography: Modern World US History Principles of American Democracy Economics (G)	2 years: World History, US History, or Principles of American Democracy AP courses are recommended	2 years: World History, US History, or Principles of American Democracy AP courses are recommended	2-3 years: World History, US History, Principles of American Democracy, and College preparatory electives recommended AP courses are recommended	No subject requirements Must be 18 years of age, a high school graduate or Possess a high school proficiency test certificate
English “B” Requirement	40 credits English 9, English 10 American Literature & Contemporary Composition 12 th grade Composition & an English Literature elective	4 years: English AP/additional courses are recommended	4 years: English AP/additional courses are recommended	4 years: English AP/additional courses are recommended	
Mathematics “C” Requirement	20 credits College Preparatory Math: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 or higher levels (Must enroll in math 9-11) Adv. App. Math (12 th grade) If Geometry is not met Additional courses are recommended	3 years: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 AP/additional courses are recommended	3 years: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 AP/additional courses are recommended	3-4 years: College preparatory Math each year AP/additional courses are recommended	Please note: <i>Students are most successful when they continue to take the college preparatory courses suggested for each semester.</i> <i>Students are also encouraged to enroll in honors, Advanced Placement and other rigorous courses</i>
Lab Science “D” Requirement	20 credits total 10 credits Biological Science (Biology) 10 credits Physics Science (Chemistry or Physics, ICS1)	2 years: Lab Science – including at least 2 of the three foundational subjects of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics 3-4 courses are recommended	2 years: Lab Science 3-4 courses are recommended	3-4 years: Lab Science	
World Languages “E” Requirement (Language Other Than English)		2 years: Same World Language AP and 3-4 courses are recommended	2 years: Same World Language AP and 3-4 courses are recommended	3-4 years: Same World Language AP courses are recommended	



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Attachment D

Los Angeles Unified School District

2015 Graduation Requirements and <u>Minimum</u> College Admission “A-G” Requirements (Continue)					
SUBJECT	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION Grades 9 – 12 <i>Students must be enrolled in “A-G” course requirements</i> 230 credits needed to graduate	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA “A-G” Requirements Grades of C or better	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY “A-G” Requirements Grades of C or better	PRIVATE COLLEGES Grades of C or better	COMMUNITY COLLEGES Grades of C or better
Visual/Performing Arts “F” Requirement	10 credits Visual/Performing Arts	1 year: Visual and Performing Arts	1 year: Visual and Performing Arts	Visual & Performing Arts courses may count as electives	
Electives “G” Requirement	75 credits	1 year or more: Advanced courses in Math, Arts, English, Lab Science, World Language, or Social Sciences	1 year: Advanced courses in Math, Arts, English, Lab Science, World Language, or Social Sciences	College preparatory electives in the subject area of interest	
Applied Technology	10 credits		Career Technical Education courses accepted		
Physical Education	20 credits	None	None	None	None
Health	5 credits	None	None	None	None
Total Credits to Graduate	230 credits				
Additional Non-Course Requirements	None				
Assessments		SAT Reasoning Test or ACT plus Writing Analytical Writing Placement Exam (Subject A) College major may require SAT Subject Tests	SAT Reasoning Test or ACT Placement exams in: English EPT and Math ELM	SAT Reasoning Test or ACT SAT Subject Tests are required for some colleges	Placement exams for English, Mathematics and Chemistry

For additional information regarding graduation requirements, college admission requirements, testing, financial aid, and general announcements, go to the LAUSD College Connection website at: <http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>