

### 510.00.03 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The graduation requirements for students attending Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) meet those of the Minnesota Department of Education and are consistent across district schools and programs. The following procedure provides a summary of the credit requirements, recommendations for elective course work to support college and career readiness, and communication of this guidance.

#### A. Total credits required for graduation

- a. Schools with a 7 periods each day (7 period schedule) = 94 Credits
- b. Schools with 8 periods over two days (8/2 schedule) = 110 Credits

#### B. Credit requirements by subject area and recommendations for electives

Graduation Credits Required by Minnesota Department of Education and Saint Paul Public Schools		
English Language Arts	16	<b>4 credits per year x 4 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 Year of English 9</li><li>• 1 Year of English 10</li><li>• 1 Years of English 11</li><li>• 1 Year of English 12</li></ul>
Social Studies	16	<b>4 credits per year x 4 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 Year of World History</li><li>• 1 Year of Human Geography</li><li>• 1 Year of US History</li><li>• 1 Semester of Economics</li><li>• 1 Semester of Government</li></ul>
Math	12	<b>4 credits per year x 3 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 Year of Algebra 1<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1 Year of Math beyond Algebra 2 may be substituted for Algebra 1 requirements if Intermediate Algebra was taken in middle school.</li></ul></li><li>• 1 Year of Geometry</li><li>• 1 Year of Algebra 2</li></ul>
Science	12	<b>4 credits per year x 3 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 Year of Science</li><li>• 1 Year of Biology</li><li>• 1 Year of Chemistry <b>or</b> Physics</li></ul>
Arts	4	<b>4 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Semesters of Performing or Visual Arts</li></ul>
Physical Education	2	<b>2 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 Semester of Physical Education 9 or 10</li></ul>

<b>Health</b>	2	<b>2 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Semester of Health, Individual &amp; Community</li> </ul>
<b>Career &amp; Technical Education</b>	2	<b>2 credits total</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Semester of Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Science or Technology</li> </ul>
<b>Electives</b>	28 or 44	<b>28 credits over four years</b> (7 Period Day Schedule) or <b>44 credits over four years</b> (8/2 Schedule)
<b>Total Required Graduation Credits</b>	<b>94</b> or <b>110</b>	<b>7 Period Day Schedule</b>  <b>8/2 Schedule</b>

**Recommended Elective Credits for College and Career Readiness**

<b>Math</b>	4	<b>4 credits x 1 year</b> Additional coursework in math is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs.
<b>Science</b>	4	<b>4 credits x 1 year</b> Additional coursework in science is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs.
<b>Indigenous or World Language</b>	8	<b>4 credits x 2 years</b> or: <b>Achievement of the World Language Proficiency Certificate or the Seal of Biliteracy (Gold or Platinum)</b> There is no MDE requirement for indigenous or world language; however, many colleges require at least two years of an indigenous or world language.

**Assessment**

According to the Minnesota Department of Education (January 18, 2018), “Districts have a number of requirements to fulfill for students’ career and college planning for students first enrolled in grade eight in 2012–13 and later. This includes offering students in grades 11 and 12 an opportunity to participate in a nationally recognized college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) on a school day.” SPPS currently offers a school day ACT in the spring of each school year.

**C. Communication of graduation requirements**

To assist students and families in planning and preparing for graduation, district graduation requirements will be communicated in multiple ways, including:

- Linked on each high school website
- Linked on the Office of Teaching and Learning and Office of College and Career Readiness websites
- School staff, including administrators and counselors, will use the document to advise and support students and families
- High school registration guides
- High school graduation progress letters

**LEGAL REFERENCES:**

**CROSS REFERENCES:**

SPPS Policy 510.00 Graduation