



Council for Lifelong Learning  
**Graduation Standards**

**Fact Sheet**

September 2001

<p>1. What are the current high school graduation requirements?</p>	<p>In order to receive a standard high school diploma, a student must successfully complete 24 academic credits that meet certain curricular requirements, earn a passing score on all portions of the High School Competency Test (HSCT)*, earn a 2.0 cumulative grade point average in courses required for graduation, and meet any other requirements established by the school board.</p> <p>* Beginning in the fall of 1999, students who enroll in the 9th grade must earn a passing score on the reading, writing, and math components of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) in order to qualify for a regular high school diploma. (See the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test Fact Sheet and the Testing Fact Sheet.)</p>
<p>2. What specific courses must a student take to graduate?</p>	<p>The 24 credits required for graduation are distributed as follows:</p> <p>English..... 4 credits          Math* ..... 3 credits,          Science..... 3 credits          American History ..... 1 credit          World History ..... 1 credit          Economics ..... ½ credit          American Government..... ½ credit          Practical Arts/Career Education/Performing Fine Arts.... 1 credit          Life Management Skills..... ½ credit          Physical Education..... 1 credit          Electives ..... 8 ½ credits          Total ..... 24 credits</p> <p>*one of which must be Algebra 1, a series of courses equivalent to Algebra 1, or a higher-level course</p>
<p>3. Can a school district choose to increase these graduation requirements?</p>	<p>Yes. School districts are authorized and encouraged by s. 232.246, F.S., to establish G.P.A. or academic credit requirements for graduation in excess of the minimum requirements set forth in statute.</p>
<p>4. What are the applicable statutes and rules?</p>	<p>Section 232.246, F.S. -- High School Graduation Requirements          Section 229.57(3)(c)6., F.S. -- FCAT Graduation Requirements</p>
<p>5. Where can I get additional information?</p>	<p>Florida Department of Education          Division of Public Schools          (850) 488-2601</p>

[www.firn.edu/doe/bin00005/menus/curriculum.html](http://www.firn.edu/doe/bin00005/menus/curriculum.html)

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