

**Graduation Requirements For Students
Beginning 9th Grade in 1998 -99 And Later**

STANDARD Diploma - 22 Credits

English4 Credits

Social Studies3 Credits

(World Geography or World History,
US History, and US & VA Government)

Math.....3 Credits

Algebra I and above -- possible scenarios are:
2 credits in Algebra I and 1 credit in Geometry
1 credit in Algebra I and 2 credits in Geometry
1 credit in Algebra I, Geometry, & Computer Math

MUST COMPLETE ENTIRE MATH COURSE

(In other words, 2 credits in Algebra I and 1 credit in Geometry that covers only 1/2 of the course (A&B) is unacceptable.)

Science3 Credits

(Must include 2 different disciplines from among Earth Science,
Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

Health.....1 Credit

PE.....1 Credit

Fine or Practical Art.....1 Credit

Total Credits22 Credits

(Elective credits plus required credits must total 22 or more. Two electives must be in a sequential program.)

Tests Required-

- Beginning 9th graders in 1998-99 and 1999-2000: Must pass all 3 LPTs.
- Beginning 9th graders in 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03: Do **not** need LPTs; **instead** must pass 6 different SOL tests as follows: 2 in English and 4 additional SOLs of their choice.
- Beginning 9th graders in 2003-04 and beyond: must pass 6 different SOL tests as follows: 2 in English and 4 additional SOLs to be as follows:
1 in Social Studies, 1 in Math, 1 in Science, **and**
1 **additional** in Math, Science, or Social Studies -(student's choice).

ADVANCED STUDIES Diploma

24 Credits

Same as above **EXCEPT**:

Social Studies4 Credits

(Must include both World Geography and World History)

Math.....4 Credits

(Must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II; 4th credit may be achieved by counting 2 credits for either Algebra or Geometry that was taken over two years **OR** by taking any course above Algebra II. (Computer Math I is **not** acceptable for the 4th credit; H Computer Math II (497-498) is acceptable.)

Science4 Credits

(Must include 3 different disciplines from among Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics-**Cannot count Active Physics**.)

Foreign Language.....3 Credits

(In the same language or 2 credits in each of 2 different foreign languages.)

Total Credits24 Credits

(Elective credits added to required credits must total at least 24.)

Tests Required-Beginning 9th graders in 2000-01:

Do **not** need LPTs; **instead** must pass 9 different SOL tests as follows: 2 in English, 2 in Math, 2 in Science, 2 in Social Studies, 1 **additional** test in Math, Science, or Social Studies -(student's choice)

**Requirements for the
MODIFIED STANDARD Diploma**

1. The Modified Standard Diploma program is intended for certain students at the secondary level who have a disability and are unlikely to meet the credit requirements for a Standard Diploma. Eligibility and participation in the Modified Standard Diploma program shall be determined by the student's Individual Education Program (IEP) team and the student, where appropriate, at any point after the student's eighth grade year.
2. The school must secure the informed written consent of the parent/guardian and the student to choose this diploma program after review of the student's academic history and the full disclosure of the student's options.
3. The student who has chosen to pursue a Modified Standard Diploma shall also be allowed to pursue the Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma at any time throughout that student's high school career. The student must not be excluded from courses and tests required to earn a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma.
4. Beginning with the ninth grade class of 2000-01, those students who pursue the Modified Standard Diploma shall be required to pass the 8th grade Standards of Learning (SOL) test in both English (Reading, Literature, and Research) and mathematics to meet the literacy and numeracy requirements for this diploma. Students who are in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades in the school year 2000-01 shall pass the Literacy Passport Tests (LPT) prescribed by the Board to meet the literacy and numeracy requirements for this diploma.
5. The student must meet any additional criteria established by the Board.

Credits Required For Graduation

Discipline Area	Standard Units of Credit Required
English	4
Mathematics ¹	3
Science ²	2
History and Social Science ³	2
Health & Physical Education	2
Fine or Practical Arts	1
Electives ⁴	6
Total	20

¹Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include content from among applications of algebra, geometry, personal finance, and statistics in courses that have been approved by the Board.

²Courses completed shall include content from at least two of the following: applications of earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics in courses approved by the Board.

³Courses completed to satisfy this requirement should include one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia History and one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia Government in courses approved by the Board.

⁴Beginning with the graduating class of 2003, courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives in the same manner required for the Standard Diploma.

Standards of Learning (SOL) Information for Transferring Students

First-time Transfers to a Virginia Public School Standard Diploma Verified Credit Requirements

Students transferring into a Virginia public school for the first time	Must Earn	Ninth Graders in 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03	Ninth graders in 2003-04 and beyond
During 9th Grade Beginning of 10th Grade	6 Verified Credits		
	English Mathematics Science History and Social Science Student Selected	2 4	2 1 1 1 1
During 10th Grade Beginning of 11th Grade	4 Verified Credits		
	English Mathematics Science History and Social Science Student Selected	1 3	1 1 1 1
During 11th Grade Beginning of 12th Grade	2 verified Credits		
	English Student Selected	1 1	1 1
During 12th Grade	Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma. If this is not possible, arrange to have the previous school award the diploma; or seek a waiver of the verified credit requirement from the DOE.		

First-time Transfers to a Virginia Public School Advanced Studies Diploma Verified Credit Requirements

Students transferring into a Virginia public school for the first time	Must Earn	Ninth graders in 2000-01 and beyond
During 9th Grade Beginning of 10th Grade	9 Verified Credits	
	English Mathematics Science History and Social Science Student Selected	2 2 2 2 1
During 10th Grade Beginning of 11th Grade	6 Verified Credits	
	English Mathematics Science History and Social Science Student Selected	2 1 1 1 1
During 11th Grade Beginning of 12th Grade	4 Verified Credits	
	English Student Selected	1 3
During 12th Grade	Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma. If this is not possible, arrange to have the previous school award the diploma; or seek a waiver of the verified credit requirement from the DOE.	