

Message from ISBE: State and Federal law provide specific regulations governing the education you receive, but many decisions come from your local school district with some guidelines from the Illinois State Board of Education. Use this page to explore topics that impact you-like graduations requirements and testing-and find out where those decisions are coming from.

http://www.isbe.net/Documents/grad_require.pdf

HHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from Hillsboro High School, a student is required to have 25 credits.

These graduations credits must include a minimum of:

1. Four credits of English to include English I, II, III and one credit of English IV or another English Elective. (8 Semesters)
2. Two credits of Social Studies, of which at least one year must be American History and one semester of American Government. (4 Semesters)
3. Three credits of science. (6 Semesters)
4. Three credits of Mathematics. (6 Semesters)
5. One credit of Business Technology and Consumer Concepts. (2 Semesters)
6. Health (1 Semester)
7. Interpersonal Communications (1 Semester)
8. Passing physical education. (Or equivalent to taking one for every semester enrolled)
9. One year chosen from any of the following areas:
 - a. Music
 - b. Art
 - c. Foreign Language
 - d. Vocational Education (Business Classes, Ag Classes and Off-Campus Classes)

In addition, all students must take and receive a passing grade on the Constitution test. Senior students are also required by law to submit a **FAFSA application** OR **waiver**. Junior students must take the **ACT School Day Exam**. These both are to be completed as a condition to receive a high school diploma.

NOT ON TRACK TO GRADUATE

Students are notified of “not being on track to graduate” if their credits are at or below the credits listed below. “*Total possible*” represents total number of credits earned by a student taking the minimum number of classes per semester.

| | S1 Credits/Total Poss | S2 Credits/Total Poss | Required Credits |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FRESHMAN-2028 | 3.0/3.5 (1 failed) | 6.0/7.0 (2 failed) | 25.0 |
| SOPHOMORE-2027 | 8.5/10.5(3 failed) | 12.0/14.0(4 failed) | 25.0 |
| JUNIOR-2026 | 15.0/17.5(5 failed) | 18.0/21.0(6 failed) | 25.0 |
| SENIOR-2025 | 21.5/24.5(6 failed) | | 25.0 |

CREDIT FOR ALTERNATIVE COURSES AND PROGRAMS

Students may earn a maximum of 2 credits toward graduation through approved online providers (BYU High School, Illinois Virtual H.S., etc.) The student is responsible for all fees associated with these courses. Student must receive approval before course(s) can be counted as high school credit. Any exceptions to the guidelines above must be approved by the building principal and/or the superintendent.

COLLEGE COURSES

A student who successfully completes a community college or university course may receive high school credit under the following circumstances:

1. Must be a senior in good standing
2. The course is not offered in the high school curriculum
3. The course is approved in advance by the high school guidance counselor and the high school principal
4. Student assumes responsibilities for all fees
5. A maximum of 2 units of credit may be counted toward graduation

DUAL CREDIT CLASSES

Students must qualify to take a DUAL CREDIT CLASS. Students are (if applicable) responsible for their transportation, registration and paying for their dual credit classes. See “Dual Credit Offering” under the “Course Info” link that can be found on the high school webpage.

WEIGHTED CLASSES

Students who make a “C” or higher in a weighted class will have 0.035 added to their GPA for each semester of each weighted class. HHS has the following classes designated as weighted classes:

Arts:

Advanced Placement Art (1 year)

Advanced Placement Drawing (1 year)

English

English 2250 (SLU, 1 semester)

English 1500 (SLU, 1 semester)

English 1900 (SLU, 1 semester)

Mathematics

Advanced Placement Calculus (1 year)

Science

Biology 1240/1245 (1 year)

Advanced Placement Chemistry (1 year)

EARLY GRADUATION

While early graduation is not recommended for the majority of students, it is an option for a select few. Students may graduate early, after 7 semesters if the following requirements have been met:

1. Applications must be submitted to the guidance office prior to 7th semester, and approved by the high school principal.

2. A conference with the student's parents and the guidance counselor is held.
3. The student must have completed all requirements for graduation as set forth by the Board of Education and the Illinois State Board of Education.

Students who choose to graduate early are permitted to return to participate in the graduation ceremony or their diploma may be obtained from the HHS main office after the May graduation ceremony. Early graduates must take full responsibility to make arrangements with the high school office for anything pertaining to the graduation ceremony (announcements, cap and gown, etc.).

RECOMMENDED FOR SUCCESS BY OUR STATE COLLEGES

| Area of Study | Recommendation |
|----------------------|--|
| English | Four years (covering literature, composition, standard language usage, essay/theme writing including research paper, and ½ year of speech. |
| Mathematics | Three years (1 year each of Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra) |
| Natural Science | Three years of laboratory sciences. |
| Social Studies | Three years. |
| Foreign Language | At least two years of one language. ** Students should research admission requirements for the college of their choice as it may differ from the suggested amount. ** |

*Specific high school course requirements vary from institution to institution. For instance, some schools recommend 3.5 or 4 years of math. Be sure to check with the colleges you are interested in to see what they recommend or require. These requirements refer to a four-year college.