

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 graduation requirements and testing—and find out where those decisions are coming from.

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

HHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from Hillsboro High School, a student is required to have Class of 2021 – 24.0 credits, Class of 2022 thru 2025 – 25.0 credits

These grad required credits must include a minimum of:

1. Four Credits of English to include English I, II, III (8 semesters)
2. Two credits of social studies, of which at least one year must be history of the United States and one semester of American Government (4 semesters).
3. Three credits of science (6 semesters) exemption from 3rd year science is available for off-campus programs
4. Three credits of mathematics (6 semesters)
5. Consumer Education (1 semester)
6. Health (1 semester)
7. Passing physical education (or equivalent to taking one for every semester enrolled)
8. One year chosen from any of the following areas:
 - A) Music
 - B) Art
 - C) Foreign Language
 - D) Vocational Education (Business Classes, Ag Classes, Off-Campus Classes)

In addition all students must take and receive a passing grade on the Constitution test. Students are also required by law to take the submit a **FAFSA application** (Sr year), take **SAT SCHOOL DAY EXAM** (Jr year) and take the **ILLINOIS SCIENCE ASSESSMENT** (Jr year) as a condition of receiving a high school diploma.

2020 – 21 CREDITS – 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.

2021 – 22 CREDITS – NOT ON TRACK TO GRADUATE

	S1 Credits/Total Poss	S2 Credits/Total Poss	REQUIRED CREDITS
FRESHMAN (2025)	3.0/3.5 (1 failed)	6.0/7.0 (2 failed)	25.0
SOPHOMORE (2024)	8.5/10.5 (3 failed)	12.0/14.0 (4 failed)	25.0
JUNIOR (2023)	15.0/17.5 (5 failed)	18.0/21.0 (6 failed)	25.0
SENIOR (2022)	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 school approved online providers (BYU High School, Illinois Virtual H.S., etc). This option is typically reserved for fourth or fifth year students. 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 responsibility 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 Offerings” 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 10 classes that are designated as a “weighted” class.

Arts

Advance Placement 2-D Art and Design (1 year), Advance Placement Drawing (1 year), Spanish 4 (1 year)

Business

Advance Placement Computer Science Principles (1 year)

English

English 2250 (SLU, 1 year), English 1500 (SLU, 1 semester), English 1900 (SLU, 1 semester)

Mathematics

Advanced Placement Calculus (1 year)

Science

Biology 1240/1245 (SLU, 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 the student’s 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 obtain 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 a 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 **Student 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.