

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Stillwater Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that a 12-year course of study in certain specific subject areas has proven to be beneficial in assisting students to become productive citizens and to prepare for advanced study. A minimum of 26 units of credit must be earned in the subject areas listed below to be eligible for graduation. Students entering the eighth grade in the 2025- 2026 school year, in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education with a standard diploma, shall complete a minimum of the following 23 curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

4 units of English to include Grammar, Composition, Literature, or any English course;

4 units of mathematics, two of which shall be Algebra I and either Algebra II or Geometry. The other two units may include Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis, Calculus, Statistics, Math of Finance, Computer Science, college courses approved for dual credit, an approved full-time postsecondary career and technology program, or locally approved math-based application course, or any mathematics course with content and/or rigor above Algebra I;

3 units of laboratory science approved for college admission requirements including one unit of life science meeting the standards for Biology I, one unit of physical science meeting the standards for Physical Science, Chemistry or Physics; and one unit from the domains of physical science, life science, or earth and space science, or approved full-time postsecondary career and technology program or locally approved science-based application course, or any course with content and/or rigor above Biology I or Physical Science;

3 units of history and citizenship skills including one unit of American History, ½ unit of Oklahoma History, ½ unit of United States Government, and one unit from the subjects of History, Government, Geography, Economics, Civics or non-Western culture;

6 pathway units which align with the student's Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) which may include, but are not limited to, any additional math, science, English, history, world or non-English language, computer technology, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corp, internship or apprenticeship programs, career and technology education courses, concurrently enrolled courses, advanced placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses approved for college admission requirements, music, art, drama, speech, dance, media arts, or other approved courses; and

3 units of elective courses.

All students, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a student whose parent or legal guardian approves modification of the student's existing graduation track, subject to school approval, may complete a minimum of 23 curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level as listed above. All other students graduating prior to 2030, in order to graduate, will be required to complete the "college preparatory/work ready curriculum units or sets of competencies" at the secondary level. A student will be allowed to enroll in the core curriculum in lieu of the requirements of the college preparatory/work ready curriculum upon the written approval of the parent or legal guardian of the student. Current state graduation requirements will be deemed to be the core curriculum option.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)**College Preparatory/Work-Ready Curriculum for High School Graduation**

- 4 Units of English to include Grammar, Composition, Literature or any English course approved for college admission requirements
- 3 Units of Mathematics limited to Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis, Calculus, Advanced Placement Statistics, or any mathematics course with content or rigor above Algebra I and approved for college admission requirements
- 3 Units or Sets of Competencies in Science
- 1 unit of life science, meeting the standards for Biology 1 (Biology, AP Biology)
 - 1 unit of physical science, meeting the standards for Physical Science, Physics, or Chemistry (Physical Science, Physics, Chemistry)
 - 1 unit from the domains of Physical Science, Life Science, or Earth and Space Science such that content and rigor is above Biology 1 or Physical Science (e.g., LS: Zoology, Forensics, Genetics; PS: Chemistry, Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Physics; ESS: Meteorology, Geology, Astronomy, Oceanography, Environmental Science)
- 3 Units of History and Citizenship Skills including one (1) unit of American History, one-half (1/2) unit of Oklahoma History, one-half (1/2) unit of United States Government and one (1) unit from the subjects of History, Government, Geography, Economics, Civics or non-Western culture and approved for college admission requirements
- 2 Units of the same World or non-English language, or 2 Units of Computer Technology approved for college admission requirements, whether taught at the high school or technology center school, including computer programming, hardware, and business computer applications, such as word processing, databases, spreadsheets and graphics
- 1 Unit additional unit selected from the above categories or career and technology education courses, concurrently enrolled course, Advanced Placement courses or International Baccalaureate courses approved for college admission requirements; and
- 1 Unit of Fine Arts such as music, art or drama, or 1 Unit of Speech
- ½ Unit of Personal Financial Literacy
- Additional units of core or elective subjects to reach 26 units of credit.

Core Curriculum for High School Graduation

- 4 Units or Sets of Competencies in Language Arts:
- 1 unit of Grammar and Composition, and
 - 3 units which may include, but are not limited to the following courses: American Literature, English Literature, World Literature, Advanced English courses, or other English courses with content or rigor equal to or above grammar and composition.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)

3 Units of Sets of Competencies in Mathematics:

1 unit of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a contextual methodology, and
 2 units which may include, but are not limited to the following courses: Algebra II, Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual methodology, Trigonometry, Math Analysis or Precalculus, Calculus, Statistics or Probability, Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Mathematics of Finance, Intermediate Algebra.

3 Units or Sets of Competencies in Science:

1 unit of Biology I or Biology I taught in a contextual methodology, and
 2 units in the area of life, physical or earth science or technology which may include, but are not limited to the following courses: Chemistry I, Physics, Biology II, Chemistry II, Physical Science, Earth Science, Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Astronomy, Applied Biology/Chemistry, Applied Physics, Principles of Technology, qualified agricultural education courses such as Horticulture, Plant and Soil Science, Natural Resources and Environmental Science and Animal Science.

3 Units or Sets of Competencies in Social Studies:

1 unit of United States History
 ½ to 1 unit of United States Government
 ½ unit of Oklahoma History, and
 ½ to 1 unit which many include, but are not limited to the following courses: World History, Geography, Economics, Anthropology or other social studies courses with content or rigor equal to or above United States History, United States Government and Oklahoma History.

1 unit in The Arts which may include Visual Arts and General Music

1 unit in Computer Technology including Computer Programming, Hardware and Business Computer Applications.

½ Unit of Personal Financial Literacy

Additional units of core or elective subjects to reach 26 units of credit.

Credit may be earned for the above-reference classes when the courses are taken in the 7th or 8th grades if the teachers are certified or authorized by law to teach the subjects for high school credit and the required course rigor is maintained.

Students will not be allowed to earn credit more than once for completion of the same unit or set of competencies.

All students in grades 9 through 12 are required to enroll in a minimum of six (6) periods, or the equivalent in block scheduling, of rigorous academic or career and technology courses each day.

Students who transfer into this district from out of state after their junior year of high school shall not be denied, because of differing graduation requirements, the opportunity to be awarded a standard diploma.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)

Courses offered by a supplemental education organization that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are taught by a certified teacher and which provide for the teaching and learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the Oklahoma Academic Standards may, upon approval of the State Board of Education and the Stillwater Public Schools Board of Education, be counted for academic credit and toward meeting state graduation requirements.

All students shall be required to receive instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the awareness of the purpose of an automated external defibrillator at least once between ninth grade and high school graduation. A school administrator may waive this requirement for an eligible student who has a disability. A student may also be excused from this requirement if a parent of the student objects in writing.

In order to graduate with a standard diploma, students entering the 9th grade prior to or during the 2016-2017 school year, must complete 26 units of credit and have participated in any of the following:

a. The Oklahoma State Testing Program

b. If a student has not had the opportunity to participate in the Oklahoma State Testing Program, a state testing program from another state other than Oklahoma or a nationally recognized assessment, such as ACT or SAT, will be accepted.

Beginning with ninth graders in the 2021-2022 school year students are required to pass the United State naturalization test, in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education. The United States naturalization test will be provided at least once per school year, beginning as early as eighth grade. Students must score a 60% to pass the test and may retake the exam upon request and as often as desired until earning a passing score. Students with disabilities whose individualized education program (IEP), consistent with state law, indicates that the student is to be assessed with alternative achievement standards through the Oklahoma Alternative Assessment Program (OAAP) will be exempt.

Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education, students shall complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A student shall be exempt from this requirement if:

- the student's parent or legal guardian submits a signed form authorizing the student to opt out of the requirement;
- the student, age eighteen (18) or older, submits a signed form authorizing him or her to opt out of the requirement or
- a school counselor authorizes a student to opt out of the requirement.

Students shall be allowed to earn released time elective credit in accordance with state law and the Oklahoma Accreditation Standards.

REFERENCE: 70 O.S. § 11-103.2c
70 O.S. § 11-103.6
70 O.S. § 1210.199
70 O.S. § 1210.508
70 O.S. § 1210.523