



Orange Unified School District High School Graduation Requirements



Beginning with the Class of 2021

A high school diploma shall be awarded to all students who satisfactorily meet the prescribed requirements for graduation. Individual educational plans may provide alternative ways to demonstrate proficiencies for special education students.

I. GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Satisfactory completion of 232.5 credits completed in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 (Generally 5 credits are earned for each semester course passed).

Classification: Class standing is determined by the number of semester credits completed, grades 9-12.

- A student becomes a Sophomore when he/she has attained 60 semester credits;
- A student becomes a Junior when he/she has attained 120 semester credits;
- A student becomes a Senior when he/she has completed 170 semester credits.

II. SPECIFIC GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

➤ LANGUAGE ARTS	40 Credits
English 9	10
English 10	10
English 11	10
English 12	10

➤ SOCIAL SCIENCE	30 Credits
World History	10
United States History	10
American Government	5
Economics	5

➤ MATHEMATICS	20 Credits
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** Every student must pass Algebra or Mathematics I in order to earn a high school diploma.*

**** Students must complete three years of Math through Algebra II with grades of C or better to meet the CSU/UC "A - G" College Entrance Requirements.**

(Students may be awarded up to 10 credits for successful completion of an approved computer science course that is classified as a CATEGORY C based on the A-G course requirements for college admissions)

➤ SCIENCE	20 Credits
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10

**** Students must complete both a Life and Physical UC approved Lab Science with grades of C or better in order to meet the CSU/UC "A - G" College Entrance Requirements.**

(Ten credits earned from the following CTE courses may be used to meet the Life Science requirement for graduation: Animal Science, Animal Care II, Vet Science, Hospital Occupations, Body Systems & Disorders, Sports Medicine I, Emergency Medical Technician, or Medical Core.)

- **PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (with Hands on CPR) **20 Credits**
- **FINE ARTS, WORLD LANGUAGE, or CTE** **10 Credits**
(formerly One year of Fine Art or World Language)
- ** Students must complete two years of the same World Language **as well as** one year of a UC approved Visual and Performing Art with grades of C or better to meet CSU/UC "A - G" College Entrance Requirements.
- **COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS** **10 Credits**
(formerly Freshmen Seminar and one semester of Health)
- * Students must complete at least one year of CTE, AVID, AP, or Dual Enrollment
- **HEALTH** **2.5 Credits**
(formerly a one semester 5 credit course)
- * Students have the opportunity to take Health online throughout the year, including summer.
- **ELECTIVES** **80 Credits**
- **TOTAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION** **232.5 Credits**
(formerly 230 total credits)

III. DISTRICT POLICIES

- **OUTSIDE CREDITS**
 - OUSD students are encouraged to challenge themselves with a rigorous academic program, which may include taking college classes through Dual Enrollment.
 - Community College, Adult Education, or Private Study Credits are allowable toward meeting graduation requirements.
 - Petition for outside credits ***must be approved in advance*** by the school of residence and site administration.
 - Courses taken must meet California Academic State Standards and CSU/UC "A-G" College Entrance Requirements.
 - Only credits from an accredited institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education will be accepted.
 - A maximum of 10 credits are allowed in grades 9-12 for Private Study P.E. (e.g., pre-olympic gymnastics, figure skating, etc.).
 - A maximum of 10 credits of Special Studies (e.g. Chinese School or Study Abroad Courses) are allowable toward meeting graduation requirements.
- **NON-ACADEMIC CONTENT (e.g., Teacher's Assistant/Office Assistant)**
 - 10 elective credits allowable toward meeting graduation requirements
 - Requires parent permission

*** Please refer to the NCAA Eligibility Center for the specific course requirements needed to be eligible to compete in Collegiate Athletics (Division I, II, or III).