

## High School Exit Standards

Four graduation courses of study were approved by the State Board of Education in August, 1999 and were implemented with first time ninth graders in 2000-01. The four courses of study are:

- 1) Career Preparation- prepares students for the workforce immediately after high school.
- 2) College Technical Preparation-designed to help the student who plans to enter a two-year college after graduation.
- 3) College/University Preparation-designed for students who plan to continue their education at a four-year college or university.
- 4) Occupational Course of Study- designed for certain students with disabilities who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).



Effective with the class entering ninth grade for the first time in the 2006-2007 school year, students who are following the Career Preparation, College Technical Preparation, or College/University Preparation courses of study shall meet the following exit standards:

- **Score at Achievement Level III or above on the end-of-course assessment for English I, U.S. History, Biology, Civics and Economics, and Algebra I.**
  - A student who does not score at proficiency Level III or above on the end-of-course assessment for any of these courses but who passes the course shall be offered the opportunity to retake the assessment no later than three weeks from the receipt of assessment results.
  - If the student does not score at or above proficiency Level III on the retest, school officials shall apply a review process to provide focused intervention, a second retest opportunity, and a review of the student's documentation to determine whether the student has met the exit standard for the course. The principal shall make the final decision as to whether the student has met the exit standard.
- **Pass the NC Online Test of Computer Skills.**
- **Successfully complete a graduation project that is developed, monitored, and scored within the LEA (school district) using state-adopted rubrics. Requirements of the graduation project include:**
  - A research paper written on an approved topic of the student's choice.
  - A product related to the paper that requires significant hours of work.
  - A portfolio that reflects the graduation project process.
  - A presentation to a panel of community and school staff.

## NC Course of Study Graduation Requirements

| CONTENT AREA  | Career Prep<br>Course of Study Requirements  | College Tech Prep**<br>Course of Study Requirements   | College/University Prep*<br>Course of Study (UNC 4-yr college) Requirements  | Occupation<br>Course of Study Requirements<br><small>(Select IEP students/excluded from EOC proficiency level requirements)</small>     |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| English   | <b>4 Credits</b><br>I, II, III, IV   | <b>4 Credits</b><br>I, II, III, IV  | <b>4 Credits</b><br>I, II, III, IV   | <b>4 Credits</b><br>Occupational English<br>I, II, III, IV  |
| Mathematics   | <b>3 Credits</b><br>Including Algebra I (This requirement can be met with Integrated Math I & II when accompanied with the Algebra I EOC)  | <b>3 Credits**</b><br>Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, OR Algebra I, Technical Math I&II, OR Integrated Mathematics I,II,&III       | <b>4 Credits</b> (4th credit effective for first time ninth graders in 2002-03)*<br>Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry and higher level math course with Algebra II as prerequisite OR Integrated Mathematics I, II, III and a credit beyond Integrated Mathematics III | <b>3 Credits</b><br>Occupational Mathematics I, II, III   |
| Science   | <b>3 Credits</b><br>A physical science course, Biology, Earth/ Environmental Science   | <b>3 Credits</b><br>A physical science course, Biology, Earth/ Environmental Science  | <b>3 Credits</b><br>A physical science course, Biology, Earth/ Environmental Science   | <b>2 Credits</b><br>Life Skills Science I, II   |
| Social Studies  | <b>3 Credits</b><br>Civics & Economics, US History, World History****  | <b>3 Credits</b><br>Civics & Economics, US History, World History****   | <b>3 Credits</b> Civics & Economics, US History, World History**** (2 courses to meet UNC minimum admission requirements-US History & 1 elective)  | <b>2 Credits</b><br>Social Studies (Government/ US History) Social Studies II (Self-Advocacy/Problem Solving)                           |
| Second Language   | Not required   | Not required **   | <b>2 Credits</b> in same language  | Not required  |
| Computer Skills   | No specific course required, students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with graduating class of 2001)  | No specific course required, students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with graduating class of 2001)   | No specific course required, students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with graduating class of 2001)  | Computer proficiency as specified in IEP  |
| Health and Physical Education                               | <b>1 Credit</b><br>Health/Physical Education   | <b>1 Credit</b><br>Health/Physical Education  | <b>1 Credit</b><br>Health/Physical Education   | <b>1 Credit</b><br>Health/Physical Education  |
| Career/ Technical   | <b>4 Credits in Career/ Technical</b><br>Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a second level (advanced) course; <b>OR</b>  | <b>4 Credits in Career/ Technical</b><br>Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a second level (advanced) course; | Not required   | <b>4 Credits</b><br>Career/Technical Education electives  |
| JROTC   | <b>4 Credits in JROTC; OR</b>  |   |  |   |
| Arts Education<br>(Dance, Music, Theatre Arts, Visual Arts) | <b>4 Credits in an Arts Discipline</b><br>Select courses appropriate for an arts education pathway to include an advanced course;<br><br>Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision (for students not taking an arts education pathway); | Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision  | Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision   | Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision  |
| Electives or other requirements****                         | <b>2 Elective Credits</b> and other credits designated by LEA  | <b>2 Elective Credits</b> and other credits designated by LEA   | <b>2 Elective Credits</b> and other credits designated by LEA  | <b>6 Credits</b> Occupational Preparation I, II, III, IV****<br>Elective credits/completion of IEP objectives/Career Portfolio-required |
| Total   | <b>20 Credits</b> plus any local requirements  | <b>20 Credits</b> plus any local requirements   | <b>20 Credits</b> plus any local requirements  | <b>22 Credits</b> plus any local requirements   |

\*The fourth mathematics credit in college/university prep became effective for entering ninth graders of 2002-03. \*\*A student pursuing a College Tech Prep course of study may meet the requirements of a College/University course of study by completing 2 credits in the same second language and one additional unit in mathematics. \*\*\*Completion of 300 hours of school-based training, 240 hours of community-based training, and 360 hours of paid employment. \*\*\*\*Effective with ninth graders of 2003-2004, World History must be taken to meet the requirements of World Studies.