

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Gore 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. Therefore, it is the policy of the board of education that a minimum of 25 units of credit be earned in the subject areas listed below to be eligible for graduation. All students, in order to graduate from an Oklahoma public school, 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. The “college preparatory/work ready curriculum” will include the following:

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 and/or rigor above Algebra I and approved for college admission requirements;

3 units of laboratory science, limited to Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or any laboratory science course with content and/or rigor equal to or above Biology and approved for college admission requirements;

3 units of history and citizenship skills, including one unit of American History, one-half unit of Oklahoma History, one-half unit of United States Government and one 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 foreign or non-English language or two units of computer technology approved for college admission requirements, whether taught at a high school or technology center school, including computer programming, hardware, and business computer applications, such as word processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding keyboarding or typing courses;

1 additional unit selected from the above categories or career and technology education courses approved for college admission requirements; and

1 unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music, art, or drama, or 1 unit or set of competencies of speech.

In order to graduate from the district with a standard diploma, students shall complete the following core curriculum units at the secondary level:

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)****Language Arts**

4 units or sets of competencies

1 unit of Grammar and Composition  
and

3 units which may include

American Literature

English Literature

World Literature

Advanced English Courses

Other English courses with content and/or rigor  
equal to or above grammar and composition

**Mathematics**

3 units or sets of competencies

1 unit of Algebra I<sup>1</sup>  
and

2 units which may include:

Algebra II

Geometry<sup>1</sup>

Trigonometry

Math Analysis or Precalculus

Statistics and/or Probability

Calculus

Computer Science I and II

Intermediate Algebra

Mathematics of Finance

Contextual mathematics courses that enhance  
technology preparation whether taught at a  
(1) comprehensive high school, or (2)  
technology center school when taken in the  
tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade, taught by a  
certified teacher, and approved by the State  
Board of Education and the district board of  
education

Mathematics courses taught at a technology  
center school by a teacher certified in the  
secondary subject area when taken in the  
tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade upon  
approval of the State Board of Education and  
the district board of education

Other mathematics courses with content and/or  
rigor equal to or above Algebra I

**Science**

3 units or sets of competencies

1 unit of Biology I<sup>1</sup>  
and

2 units which may include:

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

Contextual science courses that enhance  
technology preparation whether taught at a  
(1) comprehensive high school, or (2)  
technology center school when taken in the  
tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade, taught by a  
certified teacher, and approved by the State  
Board of Education and the district board of  
education

Science courses taught at a technology center  
school by a teacher certified in the secondary  
subject area when taken in the tenth, eleventh,  
or twelfth grade upon approval of the State  
Board of Education and the district board of  
education

Other science courses with content and/or rigor  
equal to or above Biology I

<sup>1</sup> These courses may be taught in a contextual methodology.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)****Social Studies**

3 units or sets of competencies

1 unit of United States History

½ to 1 unit of United States Government

½ unit of Oklahoma History

½ unit to 1 unit which may include:

World History

Geography

Economics

Anthropology

Other social studies courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above United States History, United States Government, and Oklahoma history

**The Arts**

2 units or sets of competencies

**Electives**

8 units or sets of competencies

In addition to the curriculum requirements, students shall complete the requirements for a personal financial literacy passport as set forth in the Passport to Financial Literacy Act.

All students are strongly encouraged to complete two units or sets of competencies of foreign language classes and two units or sets of competencies of physical and health education as part of the core curriculum.

Credit may be given for the above-referenced classes when the courses are taken in the seventh or eighth 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.

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 PASS may, upon approval of the State Board of Education and the school district board of education, be counted for academic credit and toward meeting state graduation requirements.

No student will be allowed to receive credit more than once for completion of the same unit or sets of competencies. All of the above-referenced classes may not be offered by the district. However, sufficient courses shall be offered to allow students to meet the graduation requirements during the secondary grade years of the student.

The remaining units need to consist of coursework designed to meet the individual needs and interests of the student. However, all students in grades nine through twelve are required to enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block scheduling, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous vocational courses each day, which may include arts, vocal and instrumental music, speech classes, and physical education classes.

Students who transfer into this school 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. This applies to students who would be unable to meet the specific graduation requirements listed above without extending the date of graduation. Exception from the graduation requirements will be based on rules established by the State Department of

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)**

Education. All exceptions and the reasons therefor shall be reported to the State Department of Education on or before July 1 of each year.

*Early graduation from high school is not offered by this district. Students are expected to complete eight (8) semesters of high school in order to graduate and receive a diploma.*

Every student shall demonstrate mastery of the state academic content standards in the following subject areas in order to graduate from a public high school with a standard diploma.

- a. Algebra I;
- b. English II; and
- c. Two of the following five:
  1. Algebra II,
  2. Biology I,
  3. English III,
  4. Geometry, and
  5. United State History.

To demonstrate mastery, the student shall attain at least a satisfactory/proficient score on the end-of-instruction criterion-referenced tests administered for these courses. The State Board of Education has approved a process for alternative tests and an alternative method for students to demonstrate mastery, including exceptions and exemptions to these requirements for unusual circumstances, as required by law.

Students with disabilities whose individualized education program indicates that they are to be assessed with alternative achievement standards through the Oklahoma Alternative Assessment Program may be eligible to graduate from a public high school with a standard diploma after failing to meet the end-of-instruction requirements of state law, if a determination is made by the local school district that the student:

1. Obtains a written recommendation from the student's teacher of record in consultation with the teacher in each subject in which the student failed to meet the requirements of the end-of-instruction examination. The recommendation must be supported by the principal by documentation demonstrating the acquired knowledge of the student by alternative measures as required by the individualized education program.
2. Completes remediation opportunities to the extent required by the individualized education program.
3. Retakes the exam in each subject in which the student failed to meet the end-of-instruction requirement if the individualized education program requires retake opportunities.
4. Maintains at least a C average or the equivalent in each subject in which the student failed to pass the end-of-instruction examination.
5. Meets all other district graduation requirements.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Cont.)**

End-of-instruction testing shall not be required for those students who qualify as follows:

1. Students who score ten percent (10%) above the cut scores approved by the State Board of Education for the American College Testing Program (ACT), the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), ACT plan or Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) alternative tests shall be deemed to have satisfactorily demonstrated mastery of state academic content standard in the subject areas for which alternative tests have been approved and shall be exempt from taking the end-of instruction criterion-referenced tests in the subject areas of Algebra II, English III, Geometry, or United States History.
2. Students who have a score that is equal to or above the cut scores approved by the State Board of Education for the Advanced Level Examination Program (CLEP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) alternative tests shall be deemed to have satisfactorily demonstrated mastery of state academic content standards in the subject areas for which alternative tests have been approved and shall be exempt from taking the end-of-instruction criterion-referenced tests in the subject areas of Algebra II, English III, Geometry, or United States History.
3. Students who have a score that is equal to or above the cut scores approved by the State Board of Education for the Advanced Placement course exams, ACT, Workkey's job skills assessment, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) alternative tests shall be deemed to have satisfactorily demonstrated mastery of state academic content standards in the subject areas for which alternative tests have been approved and shall be exempt from taking the end-of-instruction criterion-referenced tests in the subject areas of Algebra II, English III, Geometry, or United States History.

Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, 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 or guardian of the student objects in writing.

**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