

**MARCH FOR FAMILIES OF 9THGRADE STUDENTS**

**STUDENTS**

**NEWSLETTER TEMPLATE**

High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

**Did You Know?**

**What It Takes To Graduate from High School**

Getting into college starts with graduating from high school. However, depending on the type of school your child wants to attend, it’s important to know what types of classes to take, the grades necessary, and any other additional requirements beyond what’s required for high school graduation. Here is what it takes:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Degree Type | High School Graduation & Community Colleges | 4-Year Public Universities in Washington | Selective 4-Year Private Colleges & Universities |
| # of Credits | **4 English**  **3 Math** (Algebra 1 & above)  **2 Science** (1 lab)  **3 Social Science**  **1 Arts**  **2 Health & Fitness**  **1 Occupational Education**  **4 Electives** | **4 English**  **3 Math** (Algebra 1, & above plus senior year math-based quantitative course)  **2 Science** (2 labs)  **3 Social Science**  **2 World Language**  **1 Arts** | **4 English**  **3-4 Math** (Algebra 1 & above to pre-calculus or statistics)  **3-4 Science** (labs recommended)  **3-4 Social Science** (including  U.S. History)  **3-4 World Language**  **+ Arts & Challenging Electives** |
| Required | * High School and Beyond Plan * Washington State History * State Assessments | * High school graduation or equivalency * Minimum 2.75-3.00 GPA * No D’s or F’s in classes * SAT or ACT | * High school graduation or equivalency * Competitive GPA * Mostly A’s and B’s * SAT, ACT, or portfolio of work (usually) |
| Recommended |  | Additional coursework and other factors may increase likelihood of admission | * Honors, AP, IB or college credit courses when available * Extracurriculars or special achievement |
| NOTE: Districts may have local requirements. Students and parents should check with school counselors for additional requirements for graduation. | | | |

Students who take challenging or ***rigorous*** courses in high school are more likely to succeed in college.

Insert School Logo

School Contact Information:Click here to enter text.

Personnel: Click here to enter text.

Tutoring Center: Click here to enter text.

**Upcoming Events & Announcements**

* Click here to enter text.

**Myth Buster**

**Student Checklist**

* **Update your** [**High School and Beyond Plan.**](http://www.k12.wa.us/GraduationRequirements/Requirement-HighSchoolBeyond.aspx)
* **Review academic progress toward graduation** and post-secondary admission.
* **Ask your guidance counselor or teachers what**[**Advanced Placement**](http://www.collegeboard.org/)**courses are available,** whether you are eligible, and how to enroll in them.
* **Plan for coursework and activities** for next year.
* **Register** for next year’s courses.

**Family Checklist**

* **Talk to your teen about coursework and activities** for next year.
* **Make sure he or she is on track to graduate** from high school and has the appropriate classes for the type of college she wants to go to. Encourage your student to enroll in AP or dual credit options when available.
* **Review your child’s schedule and course selections.**

**MYTH:** Taking the easiest courses the high school offers will boost your teen’s GPA and help him or her get into college.

**REALITY**: College admissions officers understand the difference between an A in an easy class and a B in a more challenging class.

The most rigorous or challenging courses offered in a typical high school are honors and Advanced Placement or AP classes. In general, it is better to take advanced courses and work hard than take easy classes and put in little effort.

It is important to note that there is a big difference between meeting high school graduation requirements and taking classes that colleges expect to see on a student’s transcript. Be sure to check out the websites of the colleges that you are considering to learn about its requirements.