



22-Credit Early Graduation Option

Panthers Creek High School

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Desired Outcomes

- Explain the 3-Year Graduate legislation
- Share the 3-Year Graduate option
- Cover the 3-Year Graduate scholarship
- Provide the process for applying to be a 3-Year Graduate



North Carolina House Bill 259

- A high school student in Wake County Public Schools who is at least 16 years of age your 3rd year of high school and desires to graduate after 3 years may request to graduate after 3 years of being in high school.
- This applies to currently enrolled Sophomores and Freshmen.
- Students must earn the North Carolina required 22-credits to receive the 3-year diploma.
- 3-Year graduates may apply to receive a North Carolina scholarship during what would be their 4th year of high school.



Who can be a 3-year graduate?

1. Students enrolled in a traditional high school.
2. Students must be 16 years of age by their 3rd year in high school to be eligible.
3. Students that are in the 9th or 10th grade during the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Students that are on track to meet the minimum North Carolina graduation requirements of 22 credits.
5. Students approved through the 3-year graduate process.



3-Year Early Graduate - Proposed Schedule

Students entering 9th Grade in 2022-2023 are eligible to graduate in 3 years (22 Credits)	
Content Area	Entered 9th Grade 2021-2022 or Later
English	<p>Four sequential English credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> English I English II English III English IV
Mathematics	<p>Four Mathematics credits which shall be either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NC Math 1, 2, and 3 and a fourth mathematics course to be aligned with the student's post high school plans In the rare instance a principal exempts a student from the Future-Ready Core mathematics sequence, except as limited by N.C.G.S. §115C-81(b), the student will be required to pass: NC Math 1 and Math 2 plus two additional courses identified on the NCDPI Math options chart.
Science	<p>Three Science credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a physical science course Biology an earth/environmental science course

Students entering 9th Grade in 2022-2023 are eligible to graduate in 3 years	
Content Area	Entered 9th Grade 2021-2022
Social Studies	<p>Four Social Studies credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy Economics and Personal Finance American History World History
Health and Physical Education	<p>One Health and Physical Education credit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Students are required to successfully complete CPR instruction to meet Healthful Living Essential Standards as a requirement for high school graduation. Accommodations/alternative assessments for students identified by ADA or IDEA will be provided.

Students entering 9th Grade in 2022-2023 are eligible to graduate in 3 years	
Content Area	Entered 9th Grade 2021-2022
Two Elective Combination	<p>Two Elective credits of any combination from either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Career and Technical Education (CTE) or Arts Education or World Language <p>Note: For clarification, possible elective combinations may include 2 World Language credits; or 1 CTE credit and 1 Arts Education credit; or 2 CTE credits; or 1 Arts Education credit and 1 World Language credit; or other combinations from a, b and c.</p>
Four Electives	<p>Four Elective credits from the following (four-course concentration recommended):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Career and Technical Education (CTE) ROTC Arts Education (e.g., dance, music, theater arts, visual arts) Any other subject area or cross-disciplinary courses (e.g., mathematics, science, social studies, English and dual enrollment courses)



3-Year Early Graduate - Proposed Schedule Cont...

9th 1st Sem	9th 2nd Sem	10th 1st Sem	10th 2nd Sem	11th 1st Sem	11th 2nd Sem
Math #1	Math #2	Civic Lit. or AP Gov & Pol	Amer. History or APUSH	ECON	Eng IV or AP Lit
Eng I	Science #1(Biology or Earth Science)	Eng II	Science #2(Biology or Earth Science)	Eng III or AP Lang	Elective
World History or AP World History	Elective	Math #3	Comp Science or AP Comp Sci	Math #4	Elective
Healthful Living	Elective	Elective	Elective	Science #3 (PS, Chem, or Physics)	Elective



3-Year Graduate Scholarship

- Three year graduates may apply to receive a North Carolina scholarship during what would be their fourth year of high school.
- This scholarship can only be issued if the student meets the following criteria:
 - Enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution. – A school that is:
 - A constituent institution of The University of North Carolina as defined in G.S. 116-2(4).
 - A community college as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2).
 - A nonprofit postsecondary institution as defined in G.S. 116-280(3).
 - Matriculated status. – Being recognized as a student in a defined program of study leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate at an eligible postsecondary institution.



3-Year Graduate Application Process

- Forms will be available online to print and complete.
- Parents/Guardians fill out the [3 Year Application](#) and submit it to their students counselor (submit in person). **Forms are due by May 3, 2024.**
- The counselor will review if the student meets the minimum requirements to be a 3-year graduate.
- If the student meets the minimum requirements, the administration and counselor will meet with the student and parents/guardians to finalize the application process.
- Students will have to maintain progress towards the NC required 22-credits to remain eligible for the 3-year graduate option.
- The school will notify parents/guardians if a student is not meeting the minimum requirements and the student will no longer be eligible for the 3-year graduate option.



Key Points

- It is our recommendation that students complete all four years of high school to prepare themselves educationally for post-secondary plans.
- If a student is approved to be a 3-year graduate, they may have a rigorous schedule that is demanding on time.
- Colleges and universities review rigor and course load when considering student applications.
- 3-Year Graduates will be able to participate in “Graduates Activities” but will not be able to participate in “Senior” only activities due to their non-senior classification.
- Students will participate in PCHS graduation.
- Students are not able to participate in any school activities, as a student, after they graduate from their high school. Additionally, students cannot return for a 4th year after they have progressed through the 3-year graduate option.



Key Points

- PCHS will recognize early graduates at the school level.
- 3-Year Early Graduates will be able to attend the PCHS Prom.
- 3-Year Early Graduates will take the ACT in their junior/final year of high school.
- 3-Year Graduates will not be able to apply for scholarships designated for seniors.



Please enter any question in the chat.

