

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	Entered 9th Grade 2020-2021	Occupational Course of Study (OCS) Entered 9th Grade 2021-2022
English	<p>Four sequential English credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> English I English II English III English IV 	<p>Students who entered ninth grade for the first time in 2020-2021 must pass the following courses and earn at least 22 credits:</p> <p>Four sequential English credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Starting with English I English II English III English IV 	<p>Four English credits that 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. 	<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. 	<p>Four Mathematics credits that shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Mathematics NC Math I Financial Management Employment Preparation IV: Math (to include 150 work hours)
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 	<p>Three Science credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a physical science course Biology an earth/environmental science course 	<p>Three Science credits that shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Applied Science Biology Employment Preparation I: Science (to include 150 work hours)

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Social Studies	<p>Four Social Studies credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy 2. Economics and Personal Finance 3. American History 4. World History 	<p>Four Social Studies credits which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A founding principles course which shall be either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. American History: Founding Principles, Civics and Economics 2. Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy 2. An American history course which shall be either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. American History I 2. American History II 3. American History 3. World History 4. Economics and Personal Finance <p>NOTE: It is strongly recommended that these students take World History in the first year of their high school Social Studies course sequence due to the nature of the adoption of the new Social Studies Standard Course of Study effective in 2021-22. Economics and Personal Finance is strongly recommended to be offered later in the student's high school career.</p>	<p>Four Social Studies credits that shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy 2. Economics and Personal Finance 3. Employment Preparation II: Citizenship 1A (to include 75 work hours) 4. Employment Preparation II: Citizenship IB (to include 75 work hours)
Health and Physical Education	<p>One Health and Physical Education credit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students are required to successfully complete CPR instruction to meet Healthful Living Essential Standards as a requirement for high school graduation. 2. Accommodations/alternative assessments for students identified by ADA or IDEA will be provided. 	<p>One Health and Physical Education credit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students are required to successfully complete CPR instruction to meet Healthful Living Essential Standards as a requirement for high school graduation. 2. Accommodations/alternative assessments for students identified by ADA or IDEA will be provided. 	<p>One Health and Physical Education credit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students are required to successfully complete CPR instruction to meet Healthful Living Essential Standards as a requirement for high school graduation. 2. Accommodations/alternative assessments for students identified by ADA or IDEA will be provided.

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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>	<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>	<p>Two Additional Employment Preparation Education credits, which shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Employment Preparation III: Citizenship II A (to include 75 work hours) Employment Preparation III: Citizenship II B (to include 75 work hours) <p>The work hours included in Employment Preparation I, II, III, IV shall be as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 150 hours of school-based training work with activities and experiences that align with student's post school goals, and 225 hours of community-based training, and 225 hours of paid employment or 225 hours of unpaid vocational training, unpaid internship, paid employment at community rehabilitation facilities, and volunteer and/or community services hours. Total work hours: 600
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) 	<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) 	<p>Four Career/Technical Education Elective credits</p> <p>A career portfolio</p> <p>Completion of the student's IEP objectives</p>



Special Graduation Requirement Notes

NOTE 1: *Beginning in fall 2022, students entering Grade 6 and subsequently entering Grade 9 for the first time in 2025-26 shall have at least one arts education course in grades 6-12.*

- Students must complete the standard course of study (no local electives) for a given arts education course in its entirety to satisfy this requirement. After-school activities or partial courses do not fulfill this graduation requirement.
- Students who transfer into a public school unit beginning in the ninth grade or later may be exempt, if such a requirement would prevent a student from graduating with the graduation cohort to which the student was assigned when transferring.

NOTE 2: *One credit of Computer Science instruction to the North Carolina Graduation Requirements starting for students entering ninth grade in the 2024–2025 school year.*

- This will not increase the total number of credits but reduces the total required number of elective credits by one.
- The course(s) that meet the graduation requirement provided may be offered to middle school students and would fulfill the requirement.
- Only accepted courses on the [DPI Accepted Computer Science Courses form](#) can satisfy this requirement.