

# Current Graduation Requirements for Mississippi High School Students

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 20

### SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009)

Beginning school year 2008-2009 and thereafter, all entering ninth graders (**seniors of school year 2011-2012 and later**) will be required to have a minimum of 24 Carnegie units as specified below, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-3 requirements. Any student who is taken out of these requirements of Appendix A-3 will be required to complete the graduation requirements as specified in Appendix A-2. The local school district may establish additional local requirements approved by the local school board as authorized under MS Code 37-16-7.

CURRICULUM AREA	CARNEGIE UNITS	REQUIRED SUBJECTS
ENGLISH	4 <sup>1</sup>	English II
MATHEMATICS	4 <sup>2</sup>	Algebra I
SCIENCE	4 <sup>3</sup>	Biology I
SOCIAL STUDIES	4	1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ Geography ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies <sup>4</sup>
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION <sup>6</sup>	1 <sup>5</sup>	½ Comprehensive Health <i>or</i> ½ Family and Individual Health and ½ Physical Education <sup>7</sup>
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY	1 <sup>6</sup>	1 Computer Discovery <i>or</i> ½ Keyboarding and ½ Computer Applications
THE ARTS	1	Any approved 500.000 course <i>or</i> completion of the 2-course sequence for Computer Graphics Technology I and II
ELECTIVES	5	
<b>TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>24</b>	

**Note from GEAR UP Mississippi: All students must take and pass the four required Subject Area Tests. They are: Algebra I, Biology I, English II and U.S. History from 1877 .**

## APPENDIX A-3 (Continued)

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS STANDARD 20

#### SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 (Entering ninth graders in 2008-2009)

Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5 general electives required for graduation.

<sup>2</sup> Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5½ general electives required for graduation. Students are prohibited from taking Pre-Algebra or any other lower level math after successfully completing Algebra I. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. Beginning school year 2007-2008 for all entering eighth graders, at least two of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra may not be taken after a student completes Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

<sup>3</sup> One unit may be in Introduction to Agriscience, Concepts of Agriscience, Science of Agricultural Plants, Science of Agricultural Animals, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Plastics and Polymer Science I & II; and Technology Applications I & II. Two units may be earned by completing the AEST 3-course sequence: one unit in Concepts of Agriscience; one unit in Science of Agricultural Animals or Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment; and one unit in Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship. Beginning school year 2008-2009 for all entering eighth graders, one unit must be a lab-based physical science. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry I, Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, Physics I, Physics II, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, and AP Physics C – Mechanics.

<sup>4</sup> The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.

<sup>5</sup> Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health.

<sup>6</sup> Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the *Business and Technology Framework* (academic and vocational).

<sup>7</sup> Carnegie units (up to one each school year) in physical education may be received from participation in interscholastic athletic activities, band, and ROTC if they meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework*. Interscholastic athletic activities used for Carnegie unit credit must be sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association