

Louisiana Department of
EDUCATION

The ABCs of Graduation Requirements

Professional School Counselors' Conference



Overview

- Scheduling policy
- Current graduation requirements
- LA Core 4 curriculum
- LA Basic Core curriculum
- Career Diploma
- Assessment requirements
- Endorsements
- Other issues

Scheduling - §901 of Bulletin 741

- Provide each middle and high school student and his/her parent/guardian a list of course offerings and descriptions, and the graduation requirements
- By the end of 8th grade, complete Individual Graduation Plan with parent/guardian signature
- Review and revise IGP each year

Current Graduation Requirements

- Students who entered 9th grade prior to 2008-2009
- 23 units required
- **English** – 4 units – English I, II, III, and IV or Business English or Senior Applications in English
- **Math** – 3 units – Algebra I or Algebra I-Pt. 1 & 2, 2 other units
- **Science** – 3 units – Biology, a physical science, one other unit
- **Social Studies** – Civics, Free Enterprise, American History, and either World History, World Geography, or European History
- **PE and Health** – 2 units
- **Electives** – 8 units

College and Career Diploma LA Core 4 Curriculum

- **English** – 4 units – English I, II, III, IV
- **Math** – 4 units
 - Algebra I, Applied Algebra I, or Algebra I-Pt. 2
 - Geometry
 - Algebra II
 - One additional math course

College and Career Diploma LA Core 4 Curriculum

- **Science – 4 units**
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Two additional science courses

Note: Students completing a CTE Area of Concentration may substitute an approved IBC-related course in their Area of Concentration for the 4th science, the 4th social studies, or the art requirement. The approved courses are listed in Bulletin 741.

College and Career Diploma LA Core 4 Curriculum

- **Social Studies** – 4 units
 - ½ unit of Civics or AP American Government
 - ½ unit of Free Enterprise
 - American History
 - World History, World Geography, Western Civilization, or AP European History
 - 1 additional social studies course

College and Career Diploma

LA Core 4 Curriculum

- **Health** – ½ unit
- **PE** – 1½ unit
- **Foreign Language** – 2 units in the same foreign language or 2 units of Speech
- **Fine Arts** – 1 unit of art, music, dance, theater, or Fine Arts Survey
- **Electives** – 3 units

LA Core 4 Exemption Form

- After two years, students may choose to follow the Basic Core
- A meeting with student and parent or guardian is required to discuss
 - student’s progress and best interests for future education
 - education benefits and concerns with each curriculum path
 - requirements for postsecondary institutions
- Student and parent/guardian initial and sign
- IGP is revised

College and Career Diploma LA Basic Core Curriculum

- **English** – 4 units – English I, II, III, IV or Senior Applications in English
- **Math** – 4 units
 - Algebra I, Applied Algebra I, or Algebra I-Pt. 1 and Algebra I-Pt. 2
 - Geometry
 - One or two additional math courses

College and Career Diploma

LA Basic Core Curriculum

- **Science** – 3 units
 - Biology
 - One course from the physical science cluster
 - One additional course
- **Social Studies** – 3 units
 - ½ unit of Civics or AP American Government
 - ½ unit of Free Enterprise
 - American History
 - World History, World Geography, Western Civilization, or AP European History



College and Career Diploma LA Basic Core Curriculum

- **Health** – ½ unit
- **PE** – 1½ unit
- **Electives** – 8 units
 - Education for Careers or Journey to Careers
 - Students must complete a Career/Technical Area of Concentration (effective 9th grade 2010-2011)



Career Diploma Entrance Requirements

Two ways incoming freshmen may qualify for the Career Diploma pathway

1. Meet the promotion requirements to enter ninth grade
2. Be 15 or older during the school year, score Approaching Basic on either the math or ELA component of LEAP, and meet other requirements

Career Diploma Entrance Requirements

- Incoming freshmen qualifying for the career diploma pathway by meeting the second criteria must also satisfy the following requirements
 - Attend summer school and take the 8th grade LEAP retest
 - Achieve a GPA of 1.5 or higher during the eighth grade
 - Meet the minimum attendance requirements to be eligible to receive grades
 - Meet the behavior requirements in the district Pupil Progression Plan

Career Diploma Entrance Requirements

In the 9th grade, the student must

- Complete a remedial course for elective credit in the subject area of the component of the LEAP test on which he/she scored *Unsatisfactory*
- Pass the remedial course before taking the first required course in that content area

Career Diploma Entrance Requirements

- Participate in a dropout prevention and mentoring program that includes the following components:
 - An academic catch-up component to address the all area(s) of student deficiency
 - An adult mentoring component with an emphasis on workforce awareness and readiness
 - A work awareness and work readiness skills component
 - A work-based learning component such as job shadowing/job exploration/paid internships

Career Diploma Participation Form

- There must be a meeting with student, parent or guardian, and counselor or administrator
- The student and parent must be informed of the advantages and disadvantages of the different diploma pathways
- Student and parent make the decision based on the best interests of the student
- Student and parent/guardian must initial and sign the form
- The principal signs to indicate that appropriate counseling has taken place



Career Diploma Participation Form

- Discuss with student and parent/guardian
 - Student’s abilities and interests based on their scores, work in class, and activities
 - Career plans and post secondary training required
 - Requirements for associate degree and bachelor degree
 - Consider career opportunities beyond the entry-level jobs and the education required (What will the student be doing in 10 years?)

Career Diploma Academic Courses for Dual Enrollment

LCTCS Course	High School course
English for Technical Applications (ENGL 1000)	Technical Reading and Writing
Business English (ENGL 1030)	Business English
Business Communications (ENGL 1045)	Business Communications
Tech. Math (MATH 1010) or Math for Tech. Applications (MATH 1000)	Technical Math
Allied Health Science (AHSC 1000)	Allied Health Science
Basic Body Structure and Function (HCOR 1120)	Basic Body Structure and Function
Physical Science (PHSC 1015)	Basic Physics with Applications
Anatomy and Physiology for Health Care Providers (HNUR 1300)	Anatomy and Physiology

English – 4 credits

- English I
- English II
- The remaining unit shall come from the following:
 - Technical Reading and Writing
 - Business English
 - Business Communications
 - Using Research in Careers (1/2 credit)
 - American Literature (1/2 credit)
 - Film in America (1/2 credit)
 - English III
 - English IV
 - Senior Applications in English
 - A course developed by the LEA and approved by BESE

Mathematics – 4 credits

- One of the following
 - Algebra I (1 credit) or
 - Algebra I-Pt. 1 and Algebra I-Pt. 2 (2 credits) or
 - Applied Algebra I (1 credit)
- The remaining units shall come from the following:
 - Geometry or Applied Geometry
 - Technical Math
 - Medical Math
 - Applications in Statistics and Probability
 - Financial Math
 - Math Essentials
 - Algebra II
 - Advanced Math—Pre-Calculus
 - Discrete Mathematics
 - Course(s) developed by the LEA and approved by BESE

Science – 3 credits

- Biology
- 1 unit from the following physical science cluster:
 - Physical Science, Integrated Science, Chemistry I, ChemCom, Physics I, or Physics of Technology I
- The remaining units shall come from the following:
 - Food Science, Forensic Science, Allied Health Science, Basic Body Structure and Function, Basic Physics with Applications, Aerospace Science, Earth Science, Agriscience II, Physics of Technology II, Environmental Science, Anatomy and Physiology, Animal Science, Biotechnology in Agriculture, Environmental Studies in Agriculture, Health Science II, EMT – Basic, an additional course from the physical science cluster, or course(s) developed by the LEA and approved by BESE

Social Studies – 3 credits

- American History
- 1/2 unit of Civics
- 1/2 unit of Free Enterprise
- The remaining unit shall come from the following:
 - Child Psychology and Parenthood Education, Law Studies, Psychology, Sociology, World History, World Geography, Western Civilization, Economics, American Government, African-American Studies, or a course developed by the LEA and approved by BESE

- PE (1½ credits) and Health (½ credit)
- Electives – 7 credits, including
 - A career readiness course such as Education for Careers or Journey to Careers
 - Six credits required for a career Area of Concentration to include four elective primary credits in the career area and two related elective credits, including one computer/technology course

Assessment Requirements

- End-of-Course Tests
 - Students must pass
 - English II or English III
 - Algebra I or Geometry
 - Biology or American History
 - Effective incoming freshmen 2010-2011
 - Effect on student's grade – TBD

Academic Endorsement

Core Courses:

20 core Carnegie units (Graduation & TOPS requirements),
+ 3 elective credits

2011-2012 – LA Core 4 Plus

Concentration:

Students can complete an Academic Area of Concentration by taking the core courses listed above. Students may also choose to complete the sequence of 4 courses + 2 related courses for a Career Area of Concentration

GEE:

Average of Basic in all 4 components (or other specified combinations)

GPA/ACT:

TOPS GPA; 23 on ACT

Performance Indicators:

- Senior Project, OR
- AP of 3 or higher, OR
- 3 hours college credit in a core area

Career/Technical Endorsement

Core Courses: (Graduation & TOPS or TOPS Tech Requirements)
2011-2012: LA Core 4 Curriculum

Concentration: Sequence of 4 courses + 2 related courses

GEE : Average of Basic on all 4 components with the English score at Basic or above.

GPA: TOPS GPA

ACT: ACT score of 20 or Silver Level on the WorkKeys Assessment

Performance Indicators:

- Industry-based certification OR completion of all coursework required to sit for the IBC exam, post graduation OR 3 college hours in a CTE area that articulate to a postsecondary institution AND
- 90 hours of work-based experience OR Senior Project related to student's area of concentration with 20 hours of related work-based learning

Dual Enrollment

- The principal shall approve in advance
- The student shall meet the entrance requirements of the college
- The principal or district shall verify that the contents of the college course meet the standards and Grade-Level Expectations of the high school course for which the student is receiving credit

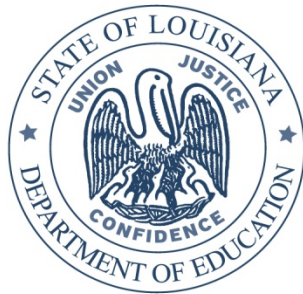
Transfer Students

- A student who transfers from a state-approved school, in- or out-of-state, shall be allowed credit for work completed in the previous school
- Use course descriptions from previous school to assign course codes
- Follow local Pupil Progression Plan for students from unapproved schools or home schooling
- *Bulletin 118* (§1355) provides policies for GEE requirements for transfer students

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