

## Graduation Requirements

The Georgia Board of Education establishes graduation requirements for all students in public schools. The Fulton County School System bases its requirements on the state requirements. Local school systems must meet all state requirements; however, they may go beyond those requirements.

### Credit for High School Courses Taken in Middle School

Students who take high school English/Language arts, science, math, and/or two years of the same world language in middle school may receive unit credit toward their high school requirements. It takes two years of the same world language in middle school to equate to one unit of high school world language.

### Eligibility for Graduation

A student shall become eligible for graduation upon meeting the following criteria:

- ✓ 23 units of appropriate credit have been completed
- ✓ State assessment requirements have been met
- ✓ Attendance requirements have been met

### Course Requirement Chart

The following units are required under the new graduation rule for Class of 2012 and beyond:

AREAS OF STUDY	Semester 1	Semester 2	Units Required
<b>LANGUAGE ARTS</b> <i>(Required Courses and/or Core Courses)</i>			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Literature/Composition (1.0)			<b>4</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Literature/Composition (1.0)			
American Literature/Composition (1.0)			
World Literature /Composition (.5)			
British Literature/Composition (.5)			
Multicultural Literature (.5)			
AP Literature/Composition (1.0)			
College English (1.0)			
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>			
Algebra I (1.0) OR Coordinate Algebra (1.0) OR Accelerated Algebra I Honors (1.0) OR Accelerated Coordinate Algebra Honors (1.0)			<b>4</b>
Geometry (1.0) OR Analytic Geometry (1.0) OR Accelerated Geometry Honors (1.0) OR Accelerated Analytic Geometry Honors (1.0)			
Algebra II (1.0) OR CCGPS Advanced Algebra (1.0) OR CCGPS Accelerated Pre-Calculus Honors (1.0)			
Pre-Calculus (1.0)			
Mathematics of Finance (1.0)			
Advanced Mathematical Decision Making (1.0)			
AP Calculus AB/BC (1.0)			
AP Statistics (1.0)			
College Calculus II and III (via GA Tech)			
<b>SCIENCE</b> <i>(The 4<sup>th</sup> science unit may be used to meet both the science and elective requirement.)</i>			
Biology (1.0)			<b>4</b>
Physical Science (1.0)			
Chemistry (1.0)			

Physics (1.0)			
Earth Science (1.0)			
Environmental Science (1.0)			
Human Anatomy and Physiology (1.0)			
AP Science Courses – Selective – (1.0)			
Identified CTE Science Courses – Selective – (1.0)			
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>			
World History (1.0)			<b>3</b>
American History (1.0)			
Economics (.5)			
American Government (.5)			
<b>HEALTH &amp; PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>			
Health (.5)			<b>1</b>
Personal Fitness (.5)			
JROTC (3 units to meet the Personal Fitness requirement)			
<b>Career and Technical Education</b>			
<b>World Language</b>			<b>3</b>
<b>Fine Arts</b>			
<b>ELECTIVE UNITS</b>			
			<b>4</b>
<b>TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED (MINIMUM) TO MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b>			<b>23</b>

### Secondary School Credentials

- **High School Diploma** – This document certifies that students have satisfied attendance, unit credits and state assessment requirements.
- **High School Certificate** – This document is awarded to students who do not complete all of the criteria for a diploma but who meet all requirements for attendance and unit credits.
- **Special Education Diploma** – This is awarded to students with disabilities assigned to a special education program who have not met the state assessment requirements or who have not completed all of the requirements for a high school diploma but who have completed the Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Students with significant cognitive disabilities are those with significant intellectual disabilities or intellectual disabilities concurrent with motor, sensory or emotional/behavioral disabilities that require substantial adaptations and support to access the general curriculum and require additional instruction focused on relevant life skills and participate in the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA).

Students with significant cognitive disabilities may graduate and receive a regular high school diploma when the student's IEP team determines that the student has:

1. Completed an integrated curriculum based on the GPS that includes instruction in Mathematics, English/Language Arts, Science and Social Studies as well as career preparation, self-determination, independent living and personal care to equal a minimum of 23 units of instruction.
2. Participated in the GAA during middle school and high school and earned a proficient score on the high school GAA test, and
3. Reached the 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday OR has transitioned to an employment/education/training setting in which the supports needed are provided by an entity other than the local school system.