

Smart Core / Core Course Requirements

for students graduating in the 2013-2014 school year and beyond

Smart Core Course Requirements

English – 4 Credits

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12

Mathematics – 4 Credits

- Algebra I (or both Algebra A and Algebra B)
- Geometry (or both Geometry A and Geometry B)
- Algebra II
- 4th credit beyond Algebra II (earned in either 11th or 12th grade)

Natural Science – 3 Credits (In addition to biology, two credits must be earned from Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics; only one credit from each category may be used to meet the 2nd and 3rd credit requirements.)

- Biology 2nd credit 3rd credit

Social Studies – 3 Credits

- U.S. History (1 credit)
- World History (1 credit)
- Civics (½ credit)
- Other Social Studies or Economics (½ credit)

Oral Communications – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Physical Education – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Health and Safety – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Economics – ½ credit

- ½ credit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus depending on teacher's licensure)

Fine Arts – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Career Focus – 6 Credits

- 1st credit 2nd credit 3rd credit
- 4th credit 5th credit 6th credit

Core Course Requirements*

English – 4 Credits

- English 9 English 10
- English 11 English 12

Mathematics – 4 Credits

- Algebra I (1 credit) or Algebra A & Algebra B (2 credits)
- Geometry (1 credit) or Geometry A & Geometry B (2 credits)
- 3rd credit – (if both Algebra I and Geometry were selected above)
- 4th credit – (if either Algebra I or Geometry was selected above)

Science – 3 Credits

- Biology or its equivalent (1 credit)
- A physical science (1 credit)
- 3rd credit

Social Studies – 3 Credits

- World History (1 credit)
- U.S. History (1 credit)
- Civics (½ credit)
- Other Social Studies or Economics (½ credit)

Oral Communications – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Physical Education – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Health and Safety – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Economics – ½ credit

- ½ credit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus depending on teacher's licensure)

Fine Arts – ½ credit

- ½ credit

Career Focus – 6 Credits

- 1st credit 2nd credit 3rd credit
- 4th credit 5th credit 6th credit

*Any student who does not graduate under the Smart-Core Graduation pathway **WILL NOT** be eligible for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship.

NOTE: Beginning with the entering ninth grade class of the 2014-2015 school year, each high school student shall be required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit to graduate. This checklist is intended only as a quick reference tool and is not to be relied upon to guarantee full compliance. This checklist does not account for any additional local requirements, and comparable concurrent credit may be substituted where applicable. Please refer to the Arkansas Department of Education Smart Core/Core webpages for the latest information.