

South Dakota Graduation Requirements (2018)

South Dakota High School Diploma Requirements

Indicates coursework every student completes as the base of earning a high school diploma.

Subject	Within Units Required, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1 unit Writing .5 unit Speech 1 unit Literature (including .5 unit American Literature)	4
Mathematics	1 unit Algebra I	3
Science*	1 unit Biology	3
Social Studies	1 unit U.S. History .5 unit U.S. Government	3
Fine Arts		1
Physical Education		.5
Health/Health Integration		.5
Personal Finance or Economics		.5
Approved CTE –OR– World Language –OR– Capstone Experience		1
Electives		5.5
Total		22

A student may earn one or more advanced endorsements that are in alignment with the student's personal learning plan. See *Advanced Endorsements* section.

NOTES:

- * A state-approved advanced computer science course (with a list of approved courses provided) may be substituted for 1 unit of science (not including Biology).
- Credit for an approved CTE course may count for core content coursework if the district applies through SD DOE's *CTE for Core Content* program. See <http://doe.sd.gov/octe/corecontentcredit.aspx> for more information.
- Students may earn advanced endorsements with their high school diploma. See the *Advanced Endorsements* section for specific endorsements.

Advanced Endorsements

Within the coursework outlined under *South Dakota High School Diploma Requirements*, a student may earn one (or more) of three advanced endorsements:

- **Advanced Endorsement:** Indicates a student has pursued coursework consistent with entrance requirements for postsecondary education at a university
- **Advanced Career Endorsement:** Indicates a student has career experience in a concentrated area, based on academic and/or workplace experience and a related credential
- **Advanced Honors Endorsement:** Indicates a student has pursued advanced rigorous, academic coursework consistent with §13-55-31.1 (High school course requirements for opportunity scholarship eligibility)

Advanced endorsements outline specific coursework completed within the general high school diploma requirements to denote particular emphases. (*Substitutions noted above with an * do not apply to Advanced and Advanced Honors endorsement requirements.*) Highlighted areas show the distinctions for each endorsement.

Advanced Endorsement:

Indicates a student has pursued coursework consistent with entrance requirements for postsecondary education at a university

Subject	Within Units Required, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1 unit Writing .5 unit Speech 1 unit Literature (including .5 unit American Literature)	4
Mathematics	1 unit Algebra I 1 unit Geometry 1 unit Algebra II	3
Science	1 unit Biology 2 units other Lab Sciences	3
Social Studies	1 unit U.S. History .5 unit U.S. Government	3
Fine Arts		1
Physical Education		.5
Health/Health Integration		.5
Personal Finance or Economics		.5
Approved CTE –OR– World Language –OR– Capstone Experience		1
Electives		5.5
Total		22

Advanced Career Endorsement:

Indicates a student has career experience in a concentrated area, based on academic and/or workplace experience and a related credential

Subject	Within Units Required, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1 unit Writing .5 unit Speech 1 unit Literature (including .5 unit American Literature)	4
Mathematics	1 unit Algebra I	3
Science*	1 unit Biology	3
Social Studies	1 unit U.S. History .5 unit U.S. Government	3
Fine Arts		1
Physical Education		.5
Health/Health Integration		.5
Personal Finance or Economics		.5
	2 units of either of the following or a combination of the two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved CTE units from the same career cluster <u>OR</u> • Capstone Experience units AND Attainment of an industry-recognized credential <u>OR</u> National Career Readiness Certificate of Silver or higher	2+
Electives		4.5
Total		22

Advanced Honors Endorsement:

Indicates a student has pursued advanced rigorous, academic coursework consistent with §13-55-31.1 (High school course requirements for opportunity scholarship eligibility)

All high school coursework completed with a "C" or higher.

Subject	Within Units Required, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1.5 unit Writing .5 unit Speech 1.5 unit Literature, including .5 unit American Literature .5 unit Language Arts elective	4
Mathematics	1 unit Algebra I 1 unit Geometry 1 unit Algebra II 1 unit Advanced Mathematics (see https://sdos.sdbor.edu/require/require.html for more information)	4
Science	1 unit Biology 1 unit Any Physical Science 1 unit Chemistry or Physics 1 unit Science electives	4
Social Studies	1 unit U.S. History .5 unit U.S. Government .5 unit Geography .5 unit World History .5 unit Social Studies elective	3
Fine Arts		1
Physical Education		.5
Health/Health Integration		.5
Personal Finance or Economics		.5
Approved CTE –OR– World Language	2 units of either of the following or a combination of the two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved CTE courses OR Modern or Classical Language (including U.S. Sign Language); units must be in the same language 	2
Electives		2.5
Total		22