

Graduation Requirements (POLICY IHF-5)

The State Board of Education offers four diplomas: College Preparatory, College Preparatory with Distinction, Technology/Career and Technology/Career with Distinction. Courses listed below by program of study meet the entrance requirements for public post-secondary institutions in Georgia. Students who are planning to attend a school other than a Georgia public institution should check the specific requirements of the school that they wish to attend. In order to receive a diploma, students must also pass the Georgia High School Graduation Tests. Students working toward College Preparatory with Distinction and the Technology/Career with Distinction must obtain a grade point average in the core courses of 80 or above.

Subject	Technology/Career Diploma	Technology/Career Diploma with Distinction
English	4 Units Including - ½ Unit American Literature	4 Units Including - ½ Unit American Literature
Mathematics	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of Algebra I* - 2 additional Mathematics Units OR - 2 Units of Applied Algebra - 1 additional Mathematics Unit	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of Algebra I* - 2 additional Mathematics Units OR - 2 Units of Applied Algebra - 1 additional Mathematics Unit
* Beginning 2007-2008 – Due to the implementation of 8 th Grade Integrated Math, no high school math credits may be earned in 8 th Grade.		
Science **	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of Applied Physics - 1 Unit of Applied Biology - 1 Units of Applied Chemistry	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of Applied Physics - 1 Unit of Applied Biology - 1 Unit of Applied Chemistry
** Students entering high school beginning in 2002 are required to take and pass one unit of physics, one unit of biology, and one unit of chemistry in order to graduate.		
Social Studies	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of World History - 1 Unit U.S. History - ½ Unit American Government - ½ Unit Economics	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of World History - 1 Unit U.S. History - ½ Unit American Government - ½ Unit Economics
Health & Physical Education ***	- ½ Unit Health - ½ Unit Personal Fitness	- ½ Unit Health - ½ Unit Personal Fitness
*** The Columbia County School System has received a waiver for the Georgia Department of Education Rules 160-4-2-.46 and 160.4.2.47 which allows students who earn three or more Carnegie units of JROTC to waive the Health/Personal Fitness requirement. Parents whose students choose this option must initial the registration form and sign a letter of intent.		
Technology and/or Fine Arts and/or Technology/Career Prep and/or Foreign Language	- 1 Unit	- 1 Unit
Technology/Career Education	4 Units Including - 3 Units concentrated in one area	4 Units Including - 3 Units concentrated in one area
Local Electives	3 Units	4 Units
State Electives	0 from Core Courses-English/ Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and/or Foreign Language, Fine Arts	1 from Core Courses-English/ Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and/or Foreign Language, Fine Arts
TOTAL MINIMUM UNITS	22	24

Subject	College Preparatory Diploma	College Preparatory Diploma With Distinction
English	4 Units Including - ½ Unit CP American Literature	4 Units Including - ½ Unit CP American Literature
Mathematics	4 Units Including - 1 Unit CP Algebra I* - 1 Unit CP Geometry - 1 Unit CP Algebra II - 1 Additional CP Mathematics Unit	4 Units Including - 1 Unit CP Algebra I* - 1 Unit CP Geometry - 1 Unit CP Algebra II - 1 Additional CP Mathematics Unit
* Beginning 2007-2008 – Due to the implementation of 8 th Grade Integrated Math, no high school math credits may be earned in 8 th Grade.		
Science**	3 Units Including - 1 Unit CP Physics* - 1 Units CP Biology - 1 Unit CP Chemistry	3 Units Including - 1 Units CP Physics* - 1 Unit CP Biology - 1 Units CP Chemistry
* Students may take Introductory Physics or Honors Physics to meet this requirement. ** Students entering the ninth grade in 2002 and beyond are required to take and pass one unit of physics, one unit of biology, and one unit of chemistry in order to graduate.		
Social Studies	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of World History - 1 Unit U.S. History - ½ Unit American Government - ½ Unit Economics	3 Units Including - 1 Unit of World History - 1 Unit U.S. History - ½ Unit American Government - ½ Unit Economics
Health & Physical Education ***	- ½ Unit Health - ½ Unit Personal Fitness	- ½ Unit Health - ½ Unit Personal Fitness
*** The Columbia County School System has received a waiver for the Georgia Department of Education Rules 160-4-2-.46 and 160.4.2.47 which allows students who earn three or more Carnegie units of JROTC to waive the Health/Personal Fitness requirement. Parents whose students choose this option must initial the registration form and sign a letter of intent.		
Fine Arts and/or Technology and/or Technology/Career Prep and/or Foreign Language	- 1 Unit	- 1 Unit
Foreign Language	2 sequential units of one Foreign Language	2 sequential units in one Foreign Language
Technology/Career Education*	No Requirement	No Requirement
(College Prep students are encouraged to take course offerings within the Technology/Career areas in order to earn a diploma with both a college and vocational preparation. Students meeting both diploma requirements will receive a dual seal.)		
Local Electives	4 Units	4 Units
State Electives	0 from Core Courses-English/ Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and/or Foreign Language, Fine Arts	2 from Core Courses-English/ Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and/or Foreign Language, Fine Arts
TOTAL MINIMUM UNITS	22	24
REQUIREMENTS FOR:	Two Year Colleges	Regional/State Universities Research Universities and Colleges