

**Students**

**Progress / Records**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION**

**6146 (a)**

**Introduction**

**I. Graduating Classes 2018-2019**

To graduate from the Fairfield Public Schools, students in the class of 2018 to 2019 must earn a minimum of 21.5 credits and meet the credit distribution requirement. A student must demonstrate the designated computer applications proficiency. One semester equals 0.5 credit for a full block assignment.

**Credit Requirements for Graduation**

To meet the minimum requirements for a high school diploma, a student must earn 21.5 credits and achieve the following credit distribution:

English	4 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3.5 credits
Physical Education & Health	1.5 credits (8 units)
Arts / Vocational	1 credit

**II. Graduating Classes 2020-2022**

To graduate from the Fairfield Public Schools, students in the class of 2020 to 2022 must earn a minimum of 21.5 credits and meet the credit distribution requirement. One semester equals 0.5 credit for a full block assignment.

**Credit Requirements for Graduation**

To meet the minimum requirements for a high school diploma, a student must earn 21.5 credits and achieve the following credit distribution:

English	4 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3.5 credits
Physical Education & Health	1.5 credits (8 units)
Arts / Vocational	1 credit

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION (continued)**

**6146 (b)**

**III. Graduating Classes Beginning 2023**

Beginning with the graduating class of 2023, students must earn a minimum of 25 credits and meet the credit distribution requirement. One semester equals 0.5 of a credit for a full block assignment. Single courses requiring additional scheduled time to be blocked will also receive commensurate credit.

Seventh- and eighth-grade students may earn up to three (3) high school credits if they successfully complete any course, the primary focus of which corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in grades nine to twelve.

**Credit Requirements for Graduation**

To meet the minimum requirements for a high school diploma, a student must earn 25 credits. Each course taken can be credited to only one of the areas below. The 25 credits must achieve the following credit distribution:

Credits in the Humanities, including Civics and the Arts	<u>9 credits</u>
Comprising:	
English	4.0 credits
Social Studies (1 in US History; 0.5 in Civics)	3.5 credits
Additional credit in Humanities area, core or elective	1.5 credits
Credits in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Technology (STEM)	<u>9 credits</u>
Comprising:	
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Additional credit in STEM area, core or elective	3 credits
Physical Education and Wellness	<u>1 credit</u>
0.5 credit must be in PE	
Health and Safety	<u>1 credit</u>
0.75 credit must be in Health	
World Language	<u>1 credit</u>
Electives	<u>3 credits</u>
0.5 credit must be in Fine Arts/Vocational Arts	
Mastery-Based Diploma Assessment/Assured Skill Experiences	<u>0.5 credit</u>

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION** (continued)

**6146 (c)**

Students will demonstrate proficiency in each of the indicators of the academic expectations which are embedded in projects and activities developed by the FPS faculty in the following areas:

- Critical and Creative Thinking (Exploring and Understanding, Synthesizing and Evaluating, Creating and Constructing); and
- Communicating and Collaborating (Conveying Ideas, Using Communication (Media) Tools, Collaborating Strategically)

Mastery-Based Diploma Assessment/Assured Content Experience 0.5 Credit  
Completion of one option in two out of the three sections in Section IV

**IV. Mastery-Based Diploma Assessment/Assured Content Experience Options**

**Mathematics**

Meet the State of Connecticut expectations for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade proficiency on the math portion of the PSAT or SAT

Meet the ACT score for proficiency on the math portion of that test

Pass a competency-based assessment to demonstrate proficiency in math

Meet the proficiency standard on a district-developed math portfolio

Complete a capstone course

Complete a course internship in a field of study, employment opportunity, or volunteer role that requires the use of Algebra II level math at a minimum

Provide evidence of proficiency on a nationally recognized math assessment

Score a 3 or higher on Advanced Placement Calculus AB, Advanced Placement Calculus BC, or Advanced Placement Statistics

**Evidence Based Reading and Writing**

Meet the State of Connecticut expectations for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade proficiency on the Evidence Based Reading and Writing portion of the PSAT or SAT

Meet the ACT score for proficiency on the English, Reading, or Writing portion of that test

Pass a competency-based assessment to demonstrate proficiency in Reading

Meet the proficiency standard on a district-developed literacy portfolio

Complete a capstone course

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION** (continued)

**6146 (d)**

Complete a course internship in a field of study, employment opportunity, or volunteer role that requires the use of junior year level English

Provide evidence of proficiency on a nationally recognized Reading or Writing assessment

For English Language Learners who have lived in Connecticut for fewer than five years, a score of proficiency or above on the State English Mastery exam designed for this population

Score a 3 or higher on Advanced Placement Language & Composition or Advanced Placement Literature & Composition

**Content Area Mastery**

Score of 3 or higher on content area Advanced Placement exam (other than Math or English)

Placement in state or national competitions in a content area as listed in administrative regulations

Proficiency scores on other content area assessments which are approved by curriculum departments and are listed in administrative regulations

**V. Additional Considerations**

**Transfers**

If a student transfers to a Fairfield high school after completing three (3) years of high school elsewhere, he/she is exempt from Fairfield High School Performance Standards.

**Notification: Teachers, Students, and Parents**

By August before the start of the Senior Year, the guidance department will formally notify students, their teachers, and their parents or guardians if the district's standard has not been met in the areas of Mastery-Based Content Experiences. A plan will be put in place to assist the student in successful completion of an alternate pathway.

**Options**

If a student does not meet the credits required for graduation, he or she may return to the high school for a fifth year, enroll in summer school, or enroll in other course options, all to be pre-approved by the headmaster(s) and Chief Academic Officer.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION** (continued)

**6146 (e)**

**Appeals**

The headmaster(s) shall oversee all appeals processes for accepting credit substitutions in unique circumstances, or accepting credit from accredited institutions outside the Fairfield Public School system, such as other high schools, higher education, and national programs. The final authority to determine graduation eligibility rests with the Chief Academic Officer.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

NEW LEGISLATION REFERENCE HERE

Approved 8/27/04

Revised and Approved 9/27/05

Revised and Approved 1/12/2010

Adopted 10/23/18