



Westerville City Schools Assessment Update 2016-2017 School Year

Overview of Ohio's Current Graduation Requirements for Students in Graduation Cohort 2018 and Beyond

The State of Ohio has modified graduation requirements beginning with the Class of 2018 (this year's Juniors). There are two components of graduation requirements: credits and state required assessments. The credit component requires all students to successfully complete a minimum of **20 high school credits** in specific subjects. The assessment component provides students three ways to be eligible for a high school diploma.

- ◆ Earn a cumulative score of at least **18 points**, using seven end-of-course state tests over 4 years of high school, or
- ◆ Earn 12 points by attaining an industry-recognized credential or group of credentials in a single career field and achieving a designated workforce readiness score on WorkKeys, a nationally recognized job skills assessment. The state of Ohio will pay one time for those who take the WorkKeys assessment, or
- ◆ Earn scores in English language arts and mathematics on a nationally recognized college admission exam such as the ACT or SAT. The state of Ohio will pay one time for all 11th grade students in the classes of 2018 and beyond to take one of these exams free of charge. Westerville Schools has selected the ACT test to administer in April 2017 to all Juniors.

◆ In what courses do students receive points towards graduation?

Students scheduled to graduate in 2018 and beyond earn points based upon their performance on Ohio's State Tests in English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology (or Physical Science for students in cohort 2018), American History, and American Government.

◆ When can a student retake an Ohio's State Test if they did not receive an initial score that earned them enough credits to graduate?

Tests will be re-administered in December 2016 to students who scored a 1 or 2. Students who received a 3 or 4 and feel they have an identified reason to retake the test are asked to first contact their guidance counselor.

◆ How many 'points' does it now take to graduate high school?

A student earns 1 to 5 graduation points based upon their performance on each of the seven end-of-course tests. Students have the potential to earn a total of 35 points, but a minimum of 18 total points from all tests is required. A student must earn at least 4 total points on English tests, 4 total points on math tests, and 6 total points on science and social studies tests. There is no additional, formal recognition for students who earn more than 18 points.

PERFORMANCE LEVEL	OHIO GRADUATION POINTS
ADVANCED	5
ACCELERATED	4
PROFICIENT	3
BASIC	2
LIMITED	1

Questions?

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- ♦ **If a student earned transcribed credit for a course prior to the test being available, does the student have to take the end-of-course test now? If not, how many graduation points will the student receive?**

No. For any student who earned transcribed high school credit in any tested courses before July 1, 2015, and a test was not available, the student will receive graduation points based on his or her grade in the course. A student who took a high school course in middle school and did not receive transcribed high school credit is still required to take the end-of-course test. The following conversion chart indicates the number of graduation points a student will receive based on a transcribed letter grade received for high school courses prior to the availability of Ohio's State Tests in Spring 2015. Also, students taking College Credit Plus courses in these subjects will use the course grade, not end-of-course test points, to determine their points earned toward graduation.

TRANSCRIBED HIGH SCHOOL GRADE	OHIO GRADUATION POINTS
A	5
B	4
C	3
D	2

- ♦ **Are there other ways students can earn graduation points beyond taking Ohio's State Tests?**

Yes. Students taking Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses in American History or American Government may earn points by taking tests that are specially designed for these courses. They would not be required to take the state's end-of-course tests for these courses, which helps avoid double testing.

AP and IB CROSSWALK TO GRADUATION POINTS		
Advanced Placement (AP)	International Baccalaureate (IB)	Graduation Points
4 or 5	6 or 7	5
3	4 or 5	4
2	2 or 3	3
		2
1	1	1

- ♦ **If a student decides to use the remedial free score on the ACT/SAT or industry-recognized credential and WorkKeys options to meet graduation requirement, do they still have to take the end-of-course tests?**

The Ohio Department of Education anticipates that the majority of students will use the end-of-course tests option as their pathway to graduate. If students use one of the other two options, they are not required to take end-of-course tests for a high school diploma. Yet, student test scores on the State end-of-course tests are the foundation for Ohio's A-F school and district report card ratings—therefore, when students do not take the end-of-course tests, the district receives a zero for that student's participation which adversely impacts school and district report card ratings.

For more information on Ohio's Graduation Requirements, go to

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-Graduation-Requirements>