

## **Graduation Requirements – Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Class of 2022 and beyond**

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania mandates graduation requirements for all students in the Pennsylvania public school system. **In addition to local requirements**, all students must complete **one** of the five options below to satisfy the state graduation requirements:

Options:

- 1) Score proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam - Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.
- 2) Earn a satisfactory composite score on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams. The passing composite score will be determined by PDE in August 2019.
- 3) Earn a passing grade on the courses associated with each Keystone Exam, and satisfactorily complete **one** of the following:
  - a) an alternative assessment (SAT, PSAT, ACT, ASVAB),
  - b) advanced coursework (AP, concurrent enrollment courses such as Penn College NOW),
  - c) pre-apprenticeship program,
  - d) acceptance in to a 4-year nonprofit institution of higher education for college-level coursework,
- 4) Earn a passing grade on the courses associated with each Keystone Exam, and pass the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) or the National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS) assessment in an approved Career and Technical Education concentration.
- 5) Earning a passing grade on the courses associated with each Keystone Exam, and demonstrate readiness for postsecondary engagement through **three** pieces of evidence from the student's career portfolio aligned to student goals and career plan. Examples of evidence will include:
  - a) SAT Subject tests
  - b) AP or concurrent coursework
  - c) higher education acceptance
  - d) community learning project
  - e) completion of an internship, externship, or co-op
  - f) full-time employment

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## **Graduation Requirements – Local Requirements Class of 2020, 2021, and 2022:**

Local graduation requirements are set by the South Williamsport Area School Board of Education to align with local expectations and State law.

Graduation requirements are: 24 credits for regular education students, 23 credits for two-year career and technical education students, and 22 credits for three-year career and technical education students. Required courses include: four credits in English, four credits in social studies, four credits in mathematics, three credits in science, and 0.5 credits in physical education and 0.5 credits in health. The balance of credits is comprised of electives.

For classes 2020 and 2021, students must attain proficiency or above on the Keystone Algebra I, Literature, and Biology

exams. Students must complete remediation in order to graduate if not proficient in any one or more of the above exams.

### **Class of 2023 and beyond:**

In addition to state graduation requirements above, students will fulfill local graduation requirements by completion of course/credit requirements in their chosen Career Pathway. Within each pathway, graduation requirements are 24 credits for regular education students, 23 credits for two-year career and technical education students and 22 credits for three-year career and technical education students. Required courses are established in each career pathway. In addition, all students must complete 0.5 credits in physical education and 0.5 credits in health.

#### **Pathways**

- 1) Arts and Communications – Students in this pathway will be exposed to both visual and performing arts in addition to written and verbal expression.
- 2) Business, Finance, and Information Technology – Students in this pathway will concentrate their electives across our business department while focusing on technical literacy and ability.
- 3) Engineering, Manufacturing, and Industrial Technology – Students in this pathway will focus on developing mechanical and technical skills. Pre-apprenticeship and national certifications are accessible to those in this pathway.
- 4) Health Sciences – Students in this pathway will engage in a variety of science electives while gaining hands-on lab experience, as well as demonstrate abilities in mathematical expression.
- 5) Human Services – Students in this pathway will become immersed in our social science coursework and gain essential communication skills necessary for this field.

#### **Graduation with Distinction through a Career Pathway - OPTIONAL**

Graduation with Distinction through a Career Pathway is an honor earned by students who choose to challenge themselves inside a chosen Career Pathway by fulfilling all of the following requirements. Graduation with Distinction is a self-selected action by individual students. Graduates with Distinction will be recognized at Senior Awards Night and will wear a color cord during graduation.

Each action listed below is required:

- 1) Attend a career fair and document at least four (4) employment opportunities within your Career Pathway.
- 2) Participate in your Career Pathway guest lecture / speaker series at least twice.
- 3) Complete a job shadowing experience relative to your Career Pathway.
- 4) Completion of an industry certification or career oriented credential.
- 5) Complete a Career Pathway course matrix.