

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2022 and beyond

A minimum of twenty-two (22) credits is required for graduation in the Smart Core curriculum. Courses used in Smart Core must be an ADE approved course. Additional graduation requirements are met within the 22 credits and are listed at bottom of page.

REQUIRED COURSES & CREDITS	SMART CORE 22 CREDITS	LITTLE ROCK SCHOLARS CURRICULUM *26 CREDITS
English - 4 Credits	English I (9th grade) English II (10th grade) English III (11th grade) English IV (12th grade)	English I (9th grade) English II (10th grade) English III (11th grade) English IV (12th grade)
Mathematics- 4 Credits	Algebra I or equivalent Geometry or equivalent Algebra II 4 th credit may be either: • a math unit beyond Algebra II or • a computer science flex credit	Algebra I or equivalent Geometry or equivalent Algebra II 4 th credit may be either: • a math unit beyond Algebra II or • a computer science flex credit
Science- 3 credits	Biology Physical Science, Chemistry or Physics 3rd credit may be either: • an approved Science credit • a computer science flex credit	Biology Physical Science, Chemistry or Physics 3rd credit may be either: • an approved Science credit • a computer science flex credit *4th Science
Social Studies- 3 Credits	Civics (.5 credit) Economics w/ Personal Finance (.5 credit) World History American/U.S. History	Civics (.5 credit) Economics w/ Personal Finance (.5 credit) World History American/U.S. History *4th Social Studies
Oral Communication- (.5) Credit	Oral Communication (.5 credit)	Oral Communication- (.5 credit)
Physical Education- (.5) Credit	Physical Education (.5 credit) (no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward units to graduate.)	Physical Education (.5 credit) (no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward units to graduate.)
Health & Safety w/CPR- (.5) Credit	Health & Safety w/CPR (.5 credit)	Health & Safety w/CPR (.5 credit)
Fine Arts- (.5) Credit	Fine Arts- (.5) credit	Fine Arts (.5 credit)
Foreign Language	NA	*Foreign Language (2 credit) Two years of any Foreign Language, both units in the same language.
Career Focus- 6 Credits	Career Focus Additional credits required based on area of interest or academy.	Career Focus Additional credits required based on area of interest or academy.
Additional information	Computer Flex course code must be different if used for math or science credit.	*To graduate with an honor seal a student must complete the scholars curriculum with 6 of those courses being either Advanced or AP level and a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better.
Total	22 Units	26 Units

Additional graduation requirements-

- Students must complete a digital course for credit (*Imbedded in select LRSD courses*)
- Students must earn a credit in a course that includes Personal and Family Finance (*Imbedded in Economics in LRSD*)
- students must pass the Arkansas Civics Exam
- Students must complete CPR Training (*Imbedded in Health and Safety LRSD courses*)
- Beginning with the entering ninth-grade class of 2022-2023, students shall be required to earn 1 credit in an ADE approved Computer Science course.

DESES Civics Exam

Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, all students must pass the test approved by ADE that is similar to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services in order to graduate.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Instruction (CPR)

A public school student in grades nine through twelve (9-12) shall be trained in quality psychomotor skill basis in cardiopulmonary resuscitation before the student graduates from high school. If a student takes the required Health course in the LRSD to graduate, CPR is a part of that course and this graduation requirement is fulfilled.

Computer Science

A flex unit of any of the computer science courses approved by the Arkansas Department of Education may replace the 4th mathematics requirement or the 3rd science requirement. Two distinct units of computer science courses may replace the 4th mathematics requirement and the 3rd science requirement. If the 4th mathematics requirement and the 3rd science requirement have been met through other coursework, any of the approved computer science courses may be used for career focus credit.

Digital Learning

Students are required to take a minimum of one (1) digital learning course for credit (either one or one-half unit meets this requirement) while in high school.

English Prerequisites

Each level of required English is a prerequisite for the next level. Students are not generally allowed, therefore, to take two required English courses concurrently. In order to keep students on track to graduate in four years, however, the following exceptions are permitted:

1. A student in grades 9-11 who failed only one semester of the prerequisite English course may enroll concurrently in the one-semester course and in the next full-year English course (for example: a student may concurrently enroll in the second semester of English I and at the same time in English II). Enrollment in the one semester of the failed course may be during the regular school day, in the evening high school, in an approved correspondence course, or in an approved distance-learning program.
2. Senior students who still need credit for either one or two semesters of English III may take both English III and English IV concurrently. The same options for earning credit outlined in #1 above apply.

In no case are these exceptions recommended. They are, however, permitted in order to facilitate a student's on-time graduation.

Bible Courses Taken in Private, Parochial or Home Schools

Since the District offers a one-semester course in *The Bible As in Literature*, the District will accept a one-half credit in Bible as a transfer course from a private, parochial, or home-school. Bible/religion courses taken in other schools in excess of one semester cannot be used to satisfy graduation requirements; nor will they be calculated as credit or grade points in the calculation of the grade-point average or rank-in-class.

Fourth Year of Mathematics

Four units of mathematics or three units of mathematics and an approved "flex unit" of computer science must be earned to graduate. If Algebra I is taken in grade 8, students are expected to take upper level math courses in high school. A student **must take three units of math in high school, including a math course in either grade 11 or 12.**