

Michigan Merit Curriculum: Minimum High School Graduation Requirements, effective for the Class of 2011

Subject Area	Description	Personal Curriculum (Modifications)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) 4 Credits	• Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Michigan Dept. of Education and approved by the State Board of Education	✓ No modification
MATHEMATICS 4 Credits	• Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II • One additional math or math-related credit in the final year	All students: ✓ Complete at least 3.5 math or math-related credits ✓ Complete a math or math-related credit in the final year Algebra II modification options: ✓ Complete 2.5 credits including .5 credits of Algebra II OR ✓ Complete a 2-year Career & Technical Ed. curriculum which includes .5 credits of Algebra II content OR ✓ Complete Algebra II over 2 years w/credit given for each year
SCIENCE 3 Credits	• Biology • Chemistry or Physics • 1 additional Science credit	✓ No modification
SOCIAL STUDIES 3 Credits	• .5 Civics • .5 Economics • U.S. History & Geography • World History & Geography	✓ No modification of Civics ✓ 2 credits must be earned ✓ Modified only if student takes additional credit(s) beyond the required credits in ELA, Math, Science or World Languages
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 Credit	• Credit guidelines developed by the Michigan Dept. of Education	✓ Modified only if student takes additional credit(s) beyond the required credits in ELA, Math, Science or World Languages
VISUAL, PERFORMING, APPLIED ARTS, CTE 1 Credit	• Credit guidelines developed by the Michigan Dept. of Education • One credit must be in the area of Visual, Performing or Applied Arts	✓ Modified only if student takes additional credit(s) beyond the required credits in ELA, Math, Science or World Languages
ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE	Online course or learning experience OR Online experience is incorporated into each of the required credits	✓ No modification
WORLD LANGUAGES 2 Credits	Begins with the Class of 2016 • Credits earned in Grades 9-12 OR • An equivalent learning experience in Gr. K-12	✓ No modification
MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM	Students must participate, beginning with the Class of 2009	✓ Modifications defined by the State of Michigan applicable to Special Education students.

- To meet minimum graduation requirements, a total of 22 credits must be earned in grades 9-12. One-half credit is granted for each semester course.
- The Class of 2011 will need 16 credits in these areas: Mathematics, English Language Arts (ELA), Science, Social Studies, Health/Physical Education, and the Arts (Visual, Performing or Applied). In addition, six elective credits and an online learning experience are required.
- Beginning with the Class of 2016, students will need 18 credits in the areas listed for the Class of 2011, plus two credits of World Languages. In addition, four elective credits and an online learning experience are required.
- Special Education students: The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) shall identify the appropriate course or courses of study and identify the supports, accommodations and modifications necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular requirements, or in a Personal Curriculum, and meet the requirements for a high school diploma.
- Each student is expected to be fully enrolled each year.
- It is the responsibility of students to meet with school staff to ensure course work meets the basic requirements of their college and/or career choice.