

# Starting with Class of 2022

## FIRST YEAR NINTH GRADE: 2018–2019 MCPS Graduation Requirements at a Glance

**THE STATE OF MARYLAND AUTHORIZES ONE DIPLOMA** for all high school graduates, based upon successful fulfillment of four categories of requirements: enrollment, course credit, student service learning (SSL), and Maryland assessments. Students must satisfactorily complete four years beyond Grade 8 to meet the enrollment requirement. All other requirements are summarized in the table below. Please consult the online MCPS Course Bulletin at [montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coursebulletin](http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coursebulletin) or your school counselor for further information.

COURSE CREDITS			
<b>English</b>	<b>4 credits</b>		
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>1 credit</b> Selected course in art, dance, drama/theater, and music satisfies this requirement.		
<b>Health Education</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>		
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>4 credits</b> 1 full-year (A/B) algebra credit and 1 geometry credit required. Students who successfully complete a calculus course may be exempted from this 4-credit requirement. <b>NEW STATE REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS GRADUATING IN 2018 AND LATER:</b> Students graduating in 2018 and later must be enrolled in a math course in each year of high school. This may result in students earning more than 4 credits in math for graduation.		
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>1 credit</b>		
<b>Science</b>	<b>3 credits</b> 1 biology credit and 1 physical science credit must be included.		
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3 credits</b> 1 U.S. History credit; 1 World History credit; and 1 National, State, and Local Government credit required.		
<b>Technology Education</b>	<b>1 credit</b> Courses satisfying this requirement are designated in the course bulletin.		
<b>Electives</b> The additional credits required for graduation may be fulfilled by one of the following three options:	<b>OPTION 1</b>	<b>OPTION 2</b>	<b>OPTION 3</b>
	<b>2 credits</b> in a world language <b>OR</b> <b>2 credits</b> in American Sign Language <b>AND</b> <b>2.5 credits</b> in elective courses	<b>2 credits</b> in advanced technology education <b>AND</b> <b>2.5 credits</b> in elective courses	<b>4 credits</b> in a state-approved Program of Study <b>AND</b> <b>0.5 credit</b> in elective courses
STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)			
<b>Student Service Learning (SSL)</b>	<b>75</b> service-learning hours		
MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (MHSA) REQUIREMENTS <sup>1,2,3,4</sup> HSA, PARCC, and MISA Assessments			
The MHSA requirements are subject to change by Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).			
<b>Algebra 1</b>	Course credit earned in Algebra 1 <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take Algebra 1 PARCC <b>prior</b> to 2016–2017, <b>OR</b></li> <li>Pass Algebra 1 PARCC</li> </ul>		
<b>MISA</b> Maryland Integrated Science Assessment	3 course credits earned in science, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass HS-MISA as or after student earns third science credit</li> </ul>		
<b>English 10</b>	Course credit earned in English 10 <b>or</b> ESOL 3 or higher, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L) 10 PARCC</li> </ul>		
<b>Government</b>	Course credit earned in National, State, and Local Government, <b>AND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass Government HSA</li> </ul>		

<sup>1</sup> Substitute Test—Students earning qualifying scores on substitute tests (AP/IB) will meet the MHSA requirement in that content area.

<sup>2</sup> Transfer Credit—Students transferring from outside MD public schools may be eligible to meet some MHSA content area requirements with Transfer Credit.

<sup>3</sup> Combined test score options are available for the HSAs and for the PARCC assessments.

<sup>4</sup> Bridge Plan—The Bridge Plan is an alternative means of meeting the MHSA graduation requirement. With the Bridge Plan, students demonstrate content mastery by completing projects when they have difficulty passing the traditional test.

# College and Career Readiness

**IN 2013, THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSED** the *College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act* (CCRCCA), aimed at ensuring that all students are prepared for credit-bearing coursework in college and for living wage careers. The Act includes the requirement that all students be assessed for college and career readiness in English and mathematics by the end of Grade 11, using one of several college and career readiness assessments. Students who do not meet the college and career ready standard in English or mathematics by the end of Grade 11 will be required to enroll in a transition course or other instructional opportunity during Grade 12, in preparation for reassessment. After completing the transition course or instructional opportunity, students must be reassessed by the end of Grade 12. School counselors and staff will work closely with students to determine the best assessment to take in Grade 11, as well as transition course options and reassessment during Grade 12, if necessary.

## What are the assessments that determine college and career readiness in MCPS?

One of the following assessments may determine college and career readiness in <b>CRITICAL READING/ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS</b>	One of the following assessments may determine college and career readiness in <b>MATHEMATICS</b>
<b>SAT:</b> 480* or higher <b>ACT:</b> 21 or higher <b>ACCUPLACER:</b> Reading 79 or above Sentence Skills 90 or above <b>Advanced Placement (AP) Language and Composition or AP Language and Literature:</b> 3 or higher <b>International Baccalaureate (IB) English:</b> 4 or higher	<b>SAT:</b> 530* or higher <b>ACT:</b> 21 or higher <b>ACCUPLACER:</b> Elementary Algebra 62 or above College Level Math 45 or above <b>Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB or BC, or AP Statistics:</b> 3 or higher <b>International Baccalaureate (IB) Mathematics:</b> 4 or higher

\*Revised in 2017–2018 for the redesigned SAT.

**OR**

**Career and Technology Education (CTE) external assessment that leads to a professional license or industry certification**  
 Visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/info/CCRCCA/certifications-041217.pdf](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/info/CCRCCA/certifications-041217.pdf) for specific programs.

## OR LOCAL AGREEMENTS WITH MONTGOMERY COLLEGE:

<b>Summative writing assessment</b> externally validated by Montgomery College <b>OR</b> <b>Grade of B or Higher</b> in Modern World History (any level), AP Language and Composition, or Honors English 12	<b>Summative mathematics assessment</b> externally validated by Montgomery College <b>OR</b> <b>Grade of B or Higher</b> in Algebra II (any level)
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## What if a student does not meet the requirement by the end of Grade 11?

As part of the CCRCCA, students who do not meet the standard by the end of Grade 11 must enroll in a transition course or other instructional opportunity in Grade 12. After completing the transition opportunity, students must be reassessed by the end of Grade 12. Transition options will include—

1. Completing online instructional modules in preparation for reassessment.
2. Enrolling in a course within the student’s schedule, such as College Test Prep; AP or IB English and/or mathematics courses; a Career and Technology Education (CTE) program that leads to an MSDE-approved industry certification; or a transitional course offered in partnership with Montgomery College.
3. Enrolling in the next English or mathematics course in sequence with enhancements that provide additional time and content in preparation for reassessment.

## How will students know what test to take and if transition coursework is needed?

School counselors and staff will work closely with students to determine the best assessment to take in Grade 11, as well as transition options and reassessment during Grade 12, if necessary.

## How can I receive more information about test options, my child’s status, and programming?

Contact your child’s school counselor or college and career information coordinator at your high school. More information also can be found at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org), search “CCRCCA.”