

## **Graduation Requirements**

In support of student development goals set out in [KRS 158.6451](#) and the Kentucky Academic Expectations, students must complete state and local requirements composed of a minimum of twenty-seven (27) credits, including demonstrated performance-based competency in technology. Students attending the Hugh C. Spalding Academy must complete twenty-two (22) credits.

Beginning July 1, 2018, students wishing to receive a regular diploma must pass a civics test made up of one hundred (100) questions selected from the civics test administered to persons seeking to become naturalized citizens and prepared or approved by the Board. A minimum score of sixty percent (60%) is required to pass the test and students may take the test as many times as needed to pass. Students that have passed a similar test within the previous five (5) years shall be exempt from this civics test. This shall be subject to the requirements and accommodations of a student's individualized education program or a Section 504 Plan.

### **INDIVIDUAL LEARNING PLAN**

Each student's individual learning plan will consist of the following units:

<b>Marion County High School Graduates</b>			
Four (4) units of language arts Four (4) units of math (including Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry) Three (3) units of social studies, Three (3) units of science, (in high school) One (1) unit in visual and performing arts, One-half (1/2) unit of health, One-half (1/2) unit of physical education			
2021 Graduates	2022 Graduates	2023 Graduates	2024+ Graduates
Additional units of academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences, including four (4) standards-based learning experiences in an academic or career interest, based on the student's individual leaning plan.  Total of 25 academic credits to graduate.	Additional units of academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences, including four (4) standards-based learning experiences in an academic or career interest, based on the student's individual leaning plan.  Total of 26 academic credits to graduate.	Additional units of academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences, including four (4) standards-based learning experiences in an academic or career interest, based on the student's individual leaning plan.  Total of 27 academic credits to graduate.	Additional units of academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences, including four (4) standards-based learning experiences in an academic or career interest, based on the student's individual leaning plan, and to include financial literacy learning experience.  Total of 28 academic credits to graduate.

<b>Hugh C. Spalding Graduates</b>
<p>Four (4) units of language arts</p> <p>Four (4) units of math (including Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry,</p> <p>Three (3) units of social studies,</p> <p>Three (3) units of science,</p> <p>One (1) unit in visual and performing arts,</p> <p>One-half (1/2) unit of health,</p> <p>One-half (1/2) unit of physical education</p> <p>Six (6) units) of academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences, including four (4) standards-based learning experiences in an academic or career interest, based on the student's individual leaning plan.</p> <p>Total of 22 academic credits to graduate.</p>

Students must meet additional requirements as established in [704 KAR 003:305](#), including a requirement to take at least one (1) language arts and one (1) mathematics class each year of high school in order to graduate. Students that do not meet the college readiness benchmarks for English and language arts and/or mathematics shall take a transitional course or intervention before exiting high school.

All required courses shall include content contained in the Kentucky Academic Standards, and electives shall address academic and career interest standards-based learning experiences.

In addition to Carnegie units, students may earn credit toward high school graduation through the District's standards-based, performance-based credit system that complies with requirements of Kentucky Administrative Regulation. Procedures for the developing and amending the system shall address the following:

#### **Performance-Based Credit**

1. Conditions under which high school credit will be granted under the system that allow students to demonstrate proficiency and earn credit for learning acquired outside the normal classroom setting, outside of school, or in prior learning;  
Performance-based credit may be earned while the student is still "in school," but the instructional setting will look different from a traditional "seat time" environment.
2. Performance descriptors and their linkages to State content standards and academic expectations;  
At the high school level, performance descriptors and evaluation procedures shall be established to determine if the content and performance standards have been met.
3. Assessments and the extent to which state-mandated assessments will be used;
4. An objective grading and reporting process; and
5. Criteria to promote and support school and community learning experiences, such as internships and cooperative learning, in support of a student's individual learning plan. Such experiences shall be supervised by qualified instructors and aligned with State and District content and performance standards.

<b>2020-21 CLASSIFICATION OF MARION COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS</b>		
<b>GRADE LEVEL</b>	<b>POSSIBLE CREDITS</b>	<b>TRANSITION FOR PROMOTION</b>
<b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>2021-22 CLASSIFICATION OF MARION COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS</b>		
<b>GRADE LEVEL</b>	<b>POSSIBLE CREDITS</b>	<b>TRANSITION FOR PROMOTION</b>
<b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>

<b>2022-23 CLASSIFICATION OF MARION COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS</b>		
<b>GRADE LEVEL</b>	<b>POSSIBLE CREDITS</b>	<b>TRANSITION FOR PROMOTION</b>
<b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>

<b>2023-24+ CLASSIFICATION OF MARION COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS</b>		
<b>GRADE LEVEL</b>	<b>POSSIBLE CREDITS</b>	<b>TRANSITION FOR PROMOTION</b>
<b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>

<b>CLASSIFICATION OF HUGH C. SPALDING ACADEMY STUDENTS</b>	
<b>GRADE LEVEL</b>	<b>TRANSITION FOR PROMOTION</b>
<b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	
<b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>6</b>
<b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>12</b>
<b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>18</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>

### **HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES**

All students must demonstrate successful completion of the courses required for high school graduation. It is expected that most students will complete those during their high school careers. However, middle school may offer courses required for high school graduation. If middle school students demonstrate mastery of middle level content as specified in the Kentucky Academic Standards before enrolling in the high school course then high school credit shall be awarded.

Acceptable demonstration of mastery of high school level content can include scores on high school content level summative assessment exit exams in the subject area. Middle school teachers of the student should confirm that the student is capable of success in the high school course. The content of the course offered in the middle grades must be the same as that defined in the Kentucky Academic Standards for the high school course.

Teachers with either secondary or middle school certification with the appropriate content specialization must teach the middle level course.

In keeping with statutory requirements, the District shall accept for credit toward graduation and completion of high school course requirements an advanced placement or a high school equivalent course taken by a student in grades 5, 6, 7, or 8 if that student attains performance levels expected of high school students in the District as determined by achieving a score of "3" or higher on a College Board Advanced Placement examination or a grade of "B" or better in a high school equivalent.<sup>2</sup>

### **GENERAL DIPLOMA**

A student who satisfactorily completes the requirements as specified in 704 KAR 003.305 and additional requirements as imposed by the Board and school council shall be awarded a General Diploma.

### **AMERICAN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ACTE) DIPLOMA**

An ACTE (American Career Technical Education) Diploma shall be issued to each student who satisfactorily completes the requirements as specified in 704 KAR 003.305 and additional requirements as imposed by the Board and school council which includes successful completion of a course sequence in a specific area of CTE and/or ATC, a minimum of four (4) courses in a special area and having passed a KOSSA Exam or attaining an Industry Certificate in that area.

### **HONORS ACADEMIC DIPLOMA**

A Honors Academic Diploma shall be issued to each student who satisfactorily completes the requirements as specified in 704 KAR 003.305 and additional requirements as imposed by the Board and school council which includes satisfactorily completing a minimum of four (4) Pre-AP course(s) and satisfactorily completing a minimum of four (4) Advance Placement (AP) and/or Dual-Credit courses during their high-school career.

## **OTHER PROVISIONS**

Advanced Placement courses, that are two (2) semesters (year-long), will count as two (2) credits toward graduation.

The Board may award a diploma to a student posthumously indicating graduation with the class with which the student was expected to graduate.

Consistent with the District's graduation practices for all students, an alternative high school diploma shall be awarded to students with disabilities in compliance with applicable legal requirements. In addition, former students may submit to the Superintendent a request that the District provide them with an alternative high school diploma to replace the certificate of attainment they received at time of graduation from the District.<sup>3</sup>

A student who is at least seventeen (17) years of age and who is a state agency child, as defined in [KRS 158.135](#), shall be eligible to seek attainment of a High School Equivalency Diploma.

## **EARLY GRADUATION CERTIFICATE**

Students who meet all applicable legal requirements shall be eligible for early graduation in relation to receipt of an Early Graduation Certificate. Students wishing to follow an early graduation pathway shall notify the Principal of their intent prior to the beginning of grade nine

(9) or as soon thereafter as the intent is known, but within the first thirty (30) school days of the academic year in which they wish to graduate. A Letter of Intent to Apply shall be entered into the student information system by October 1 of the year the student declares intent to graduate early.<sup>4</sup>

Students working toward receipt of an Early Graduation Certificate shall be supported by development and monitoring of an individual learning plan.

Students who meet all applicable legal requirements shall be awarded a diploma and an Early Graduation Certificate.

## **DIPLOMAS FOR VETERANS**

In keeping with statute and regulation, the Board shall award an authentic high school diploma to an honorably discharged veteran who did not complete high school prior to being inducted into the United States Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam War.<sup>1</sup>

## **REFERENCES:**

<sup>1</sup>[KRS 40.010](#); [KRS 158.140](#); [704 KAR 007:140](#)

<sup>2</sup>[KRS 158.622](#)

<sup>3</sup>[KRS 156.160](#); 20 U.S.C. sec. 1414

<sup>4</sup>[KRS 158.142](#); [704 KAR 003:305](#) [KRS 156.027](#); [KRS 158.135](#)  
[KRS 158.141](#); [KRS 158.143](#); [KRS 158.183](#); [KRS 158.281](#) [KRS 158.302](#); [KRS 158.645](#)  
[KRS 158.6451](#); [KRS 158.860](#) [013 KAR 002:020](#)  
[702 KAR 007:125](#); [703 KAR 004:060](#)  
[704 KAR 003:303](#)  
[OAG 78-348](#); [OAG 82-386](#)  
[Kentucky Academic Standards](#)

## **RELATED POLICIES:**

08.1121; 08.1131; 08.14; 08.22; 08.222

09.126 (re requirements/exceptions for students from military families)

MCHS SBMD approved on June 7, 2021 *R. Peterson*