

# South Dakota High School Graduation Requirements

Approved by the South Dakota Board of Education Standards in July 2018

## ADVANCED ENDORSEMENTS

In addition to the base requirements for the High School Diploma, students may earn advanced endorsements that are in alignment with the student's personal learning plan. Advanced endorsements outline specific coursework within the base diploma requirements to denote specific emphases. Students may earn one or more of three advanced endorsements: Advanced Endorsement, Advanced Career Endorsement and Advanced Honors Endorsement.

The requirements beyond the base high school diploma requirements are in red text in each advanced endorsement section below.

### ADVANCED ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

*Indicates a student has pursued coursework consistent with entrance requirements for postsecondary education at a university.*

#### 4 UNITS OF LANGUAGE ARTS must include:

- Writing: 1 unit
- Speech or Debate: .5 unit
- Literature: 1 unit (must include .5 unit American Literature)
- Language Arts electives: 1.5 units

#### 1 UNIT OF FINE ARTS

#### 3 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS must include:

- Algebra I: 1 unit
- Geometry: 1 unit
- Algebra II: 1 unit

#### ½ UNIT OF PERSONAL FINANCE or ECONOMICS

#### 3 UNITS OF SCIENCE must include:

- Biology: 1 unit
- Other Lab Sciences: 2 units

#### ½ UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

#### 3 UNITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES must include:

- U.S. History: 1 unit
- U.S. Government: .5 unit
- Social Studies electives: 1.5 units

#### ½ UNIT OF HEALTH or HEALTH INTEGRATION

#### 1 UNIT OF ANY COMBINATION of the following:

- Approved Career & Technical Education
- Capstone Experience
- World Language

#### 5 ½ UNITS OF ELECTIVES

### ADVANCED CAREER ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

*Indicates a student has career experience in a concentrated area, based on academic and/or workplace experience and a related credential.*

#### 4 UNITS OF LANGUAGE ARTS must include:

- Writing: 1 unit
- Speech or Debate: .5 unit
- Literature: 1 unit (must include .5 unit American Literature)
- Language Arts electives: 1.5 units

#### 1 UNIT OF FINE ARTS

#### 3 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS must include:

- Algebra I: 1 unit
- Mathematics electives: 2 units

#### ½ UNIT OF PERSONAL FINANCE or ECONOMICS

#### 3 UNITS OF SCIENCE must include:

- Biology: 1 unit
- Science electives: 2 units (a state-approved computer science course may be used as 1 unit elective)

#### ½ UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

#### 3 UNITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES must include:

- U.S. History: 1 unit
- U.S. Government: .5 unit
- Social Studies electives: 1.5 units

#### ½ UNIT OF HEALTH or HEALTH INTEGRATION

#### 2+ UNITS OF ANY COMBINATION of the following:

- Approved Career & Technical Education units from the same career cluster OR
- Capstone Experience

AND

Attainment of an industry-recognized credential

#### 4 ½ UNITS OF ELECTIVES

### ADVANCED HONORS ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

*Indicates a student has pursued advanced rigorous, academic coursework consistent with §13-55-3.1 (High school course requirements for opportunity scholarship eligibility).*

All high school coursework completed with a "C" or higher

#### 4 UNITS OF LANGUAGE ARTS must include:

- Writing: 1.5 units
- Speech or Debate: .5 unit
- Literature: 1.5 unit (must include .5 unit American Literature)
- Language Arts electives: .5 unit

#### 1 UNIT OF FINE ARTS

#### 3 UNITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES must include:

- U.S. History: 1 unit
- U.S. Government: .5 unit
- World History: .5 unit
- Geography: .5 unit
- Social Studies electives: .5 unit

#### ½ UNIT OF HEALTH or HEALTH INTEGRATION

#### 4 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS must include:

- Algebra I: 1 unit
- Geometry: 1 unit
- Algebra II: 1 unit
- Advanced Mathematics: 1 unit  
(details at [sdos.sdbor.edu/require/require.html](http://sdos.sdbor.edu/require/require.html))

#### ½ UNIT OF PERSONAL FINANCE or ECONOMICS

#### 2 UNITS OF ANY COMBINATION of the following:

- Approved Career & Technical Education OR
- Modern or Classical Language (including American Sign Language); must be in the same language

#### 2 ½ UNITS OF ELECTIVES

#### 4 UNITS OF SCIENCE must include:

- Biology: 1 unit
- Any Physical Science: 1 unit
- Chemistry or Physics: 1 unit
- Science elective: 1 unit

#### ½ UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION