



# Earning an Ohio High School Diploma

## Class of 2018

As a student who entered grade 9 between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015, you have multiple pathways to earn a high school diploma so that you can move on to your next steps in education or a career.

- You must complete and earn a state minimum of 20 credits in specific subjects. Additionally, you also must receive instruction in economics and financial literacy and complete at least two semesters of fine arts. Your district may have more graduation requirements. **Note: Shaker Heights High School requires 20.5 completed credits.** Your school counselor has this information.
- You must demonstrate what you have learned. There are three pathways in Ohio law.

### 1. Ohio's State Tests

Earn 18 out of 35 points on seven end-of-course state tests. You can earn up to five points on each test. You need a minimum of four points in math, four points in English language arts and six points across science and social studies.

### 2. Industry-recognized credential and score on workforce readiness test

Earn an industry-recognized credential or a group of credentials totaling 12 points and earn the required score on the WorkKeys test. Ohio pays for you to take the test one time. Some districts offer the Senior Only program through which you can earn credentials in one school year.

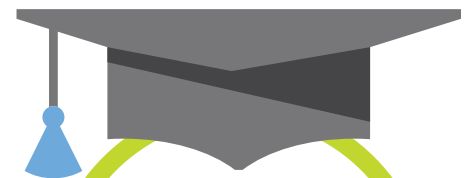
### 3. College and career readiness tests

Earn remediation-free scores\* in math and English language arts on the ACT or SAT. Your district chooses either the ACT or SAT. You will take a one-time statewide spring test in grade 11 for free.

\*Ohio's university presidents set these scores, which are subject to change.

- If you do not meet any of the above three pathways, Ohio law provides you two additional options to earn a high school diploma. The reverse side of this fact sheet explains them.

Find more details about graduating in June 2018 at [education.ohio.gov](http://education.ohio.gov). Click on the home page banner for graduation and locate the box for the class of 2018.



Talk to your school counselor early in the school year about your path to graduation and your future success.

# Additional options to earn a high school diploma for the class of 2018 only

In July 2017, a budget bill authorized two additional options only for students in the class of 2018 who entered grade 9 between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015. These options are available for those who do not otherwise meet one of the three pathways to graduate and earn a diploma.

## Option 1

You must take and pass courses that are your curriculum requirements and take all seven end-of-course exams. If you receive a score of "1" or "2" on any math or English language arts test, you must retake the test at least once.

Additionally, you must meet **at least two** of the below requirements:

- Attendance rate of 93 percent during the 12th grade year;
- Earn a GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale in all courses completed during 12th grade (must complete at least four full-year courses);
- Complete a capstone project during 12th grade that the district or school defines;
- During 12th grade, complete a work or community service experience totaling 120 hours that the district or school defines;
- Earn three or more College Credit Plus credits at any time during high school;
- Earn credit for an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course and earn an AP exam score of 3 or higher or IB exam score of 4 or higher at any time during high school;
- Earn a WorkKeys exam score of 3 or higher on each of three test sections;
- Earn a State Board-approved industry-recognized credential or credentials that equal at least three points;
- Meet OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal requirements (under development).

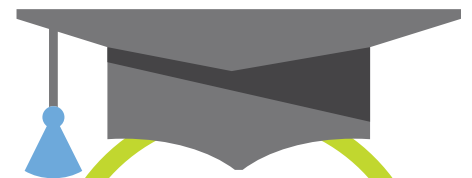
## Option 2

If you are a student in a career-technical program, you must take and pass courses that are your curriculum requirements, take all seven end-of-course tests and finish at least four career-technical courses in a single career pathway.

And you must complete **at least one** of the options below:

- Earn a total score of proficient or better based on all career-technical exams or test modules;
- Earn an industry-recognized credential or credentials that equal 12 points;
- Complete a workplace experience totaling 250 hours with evidence of positive evaluations.

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