

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Below are graduation requirements for the state of Maryland, Calvert County and St. Mary's County public schools. Per COMAR 13A.03.02.01C, local education agencies can have graduation requirements beyond the minimum requirements established by the state.

MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To be awarded a diploma, a student shall be enrolled in a Maryland public school system and have earned a minimum of **21** credits that include the following:

Subject Area	Specific Credit Requirements
English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits √ 1 in algebra/data analysis √ 1 in geometry
Science	3 credits √ 1 in biology √ 2 that must include laboratory experience in any or all of the following areas: earth science, life science, physical science
Social Studies	3 credits √ 1 in U.S. history √ 1 in world history √ 1 in local, state, national government
Other Requirements	
Fine Arts	1 credit
Physical Education	½ credit
Health	½ credit
Technology Education	1 credit
Other	2 credits in either foreign language or advanced technology education and 3 credits in electives Or 4 credits by successfully completing a State-approved career & technology program and 1 credit in an elective

Students must also meet attendance, service-learning and any local school system requirements. Students who enter grade 9 in the 2005-2006 school year and later must meet the Maryland High School Assessment (HAS) requirement.

CALVERT COUNTY PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

[Planning Guide](#) (provides information and descriptions of course offerings)

To be awarded a diploma, a student shall be enrolled in a Calvert County public high school and have earned a minimum of **23 ½** credits that include the following:

<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Specific Credit Requirements</u>
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 in algebra/data analysis• 1 in geometry• 2 other
Science	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 in biology• 2 that must include laboratory experience in any or all of the following areas: earth science, life science, physical science
Social Studies	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 in U.S. history• 1 in world history• 1 in local, state, national government
OTHER REQUIREMENTS	
Fine Arts	1 credit
Physical Education	½ credit state requirement plus ½ credit local requirement* *A process exists whereby a parent/guardian can request a waiver from the local requirement if certain conditions are met.
Health	½ credit
Technology Education	1 credit
Pathway Requirements	2 credits in either foreign language or advanced technology education and 3 credits in electives or 4 credits by successfully completing a State-approved career & technology program and 1 credit in an elective
Local Requirement to Promote Rigor	1 additional credit beyond pathway requirements in one of these categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced Placement• Career Technical Education (Career Center) – level III**Excluding Cosmetology III because it is a required course in the cosmetology pathway• English• Foreign language• Math• Naval science – level III or higher• Science• Social studies

Students must also meet attendance, service learning requirements and the Maryland High School Assessment (HAS) requirement.

[Program of Studies](#) (provides a list of course offerings and descriptions)

These requirements are effective beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year. Students entering grades 10-12 must meet the graduation requirements established for their respective class.

To receive a High School Diploma in St. Mary's County Public Schools, students must select and complete a program pathway. Students must select a University System of Maryland Entrance Requirements Sequence or a Career and Technology Education Completer Sequence. All students are highly encouraged to take advantage of all SMCPs offers and to be a Dual Completer, meeting the requirements of both.

University System of Maryland Entrance Sequence

- Complete a minimum of 21 credits, including:

English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Science	3 credits
World Language	2 credits
Physical Education/Health	1 credit
Technology Education	1 credit
Fine Arts	1 credit
Electives	2 credits

Credit Total 21 credits

- Take a Mathematics course each year of high school
- Complete the High School Assessments, as applicable
- Complete the student service- learning component
- Compile a career portfolio

Career and Technology Education Sequence

- Complete a minimum of 21 credits, including:

English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Science	3credits
CTE Sequence	4 credits
Physical Education/Health	1 credits
Technology Education	1 credits
Fine Arts 1Elective	1 credits

Credit Total 21 credits

- Take a Mathematics course each year of high school
- Complete the High School Assessments, as applicable
- Complete the student service- learning component
- Compile a career portfolio

Dual Completer Sequence

All students are highly encouraged to take advantage of all SMCPs offers and to be a Dual Completer.

- Meet all University System of Maryland Entrance Requirements
- Complete 4 credits of an approved Career and Technology Education completer sequence