



## FCCPSA Minimum Standards by Diploma Type

The following are specific minimum guidelines and diploma types that all accredited schools must meet in the issuance of high school diplomas for the 2013-2014 academic school year and after. The diploma types are as follows. Complete details of required credits, GPA and test levels are listed below.

NOTE: These are the Minimum Standards, an accredited school may require a higher standard than the minimum for any diploma type, and is not required to offer all types of diplomas listed.

**Scholar Designation Diploma:** (May be called College Prep Diploma) certifies that the student is "college-ready in all academic areas."

**Standard Diploma:** This student has met or exceeded all of the standards of a Florida public school diploma.

**General Diploma:** This follows the guidelines from a few years ago in that it does not include the recent requirement of a fourth math or geometry.

**Career Designation Diploma:** (May be called Vocational Diploma) is for a student that is academically ready to pursue a vocational career and/or training, but will not have completed Algebra I, Chemistry, or other higher-level course material. Lower level high school credits can be counted. (English Skills I or Explorations in Math, for example.)

**Certificate of Completion:** Does not designate high school graduation, it is not a diploma. Designed for ESE students who are unable to progress past upper elementary academics.

### General Guidelines That Apply To All Diploma Types:

**Twenty-Four Credits Required** for all students who enter grade 9 in the 2013-2014 academic year. The 18 credit College Prep and Career Prep diploma options remain for students who entered grade 9 before the fall of 2013. Each diploma type listed provides the "core" credits required. Additional electives or core credits will be required to equal the total 24 credits required to graduate.

**One Credit On-line** (not including Drivers Education) is recommended for all high school graduates, but not required.

**Additional Requirements for the Bright Futures Scholarship** (including Community Service Hours and specific ACT/SAT scores) are not directly related to academic standing or college readiness and will differ from the published minimum standards listed here.

## Scholar Designation Diploma Minimum Standards (College Prep)

### Course Requirements:

**4 English:** Each with substantial writing, i.e., English I, II, III, IV, or English I, II, III, IV Honors or an AP English, or ENC1102, ENC1102 through dual enrollment. Lower level courses such as *Business English, English Skill I, II, III, IV* are remedial courses and do not meet the requirement for the Scholar Designation or College Preparatory Diploma.

**4 Mathematics:** Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II are the standard. The 4th math must be a "higher level" course. Typical choices for the 4th math include but are not limited to:

1200500 Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications

1202240 Pre-Calculus

1206330 Analytical Geometry (.5 credit only)

1211300 Trigonometry (.5 credit only)

1202300 Calculus

MAC1105 College Algebra (Dual Enrollment College Course)

**3 Natural Sciences:** To include Biology, and one credit in Chemistry or Physics, or one equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics. *All science credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**3 Social Studies:** Required are: World History, American History, .5 American Gov't, .5 Economics, which must include an integration of Financial Literacy. *All Social Studies credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**2 Foreign Language:** Must be sequential, i.e., Spanish I, Spanish II

**2 Bible:** One, if the student has only attended the school for one year.

**1 Personal Fitness:** (to include an integration of Health)

**1 Performing Fine Art:** .5 can be a Practical Art

**1 Higher Level Elective:** It is recommended that the student complete at least one course through Dual Enrollment or an Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Advanced International Certificate of Education level.

**NOTE: For 2014 and 2015 graduates only, the three year 18 credit option remains a choice. The 18 credit option eliminates the Personal Fitness and Performing Fine Art requirements.**

### Test Requirements:

Student must meet the requirement from at least one of the tests listed. Sub scores from different tests may not be combined. The student must meet or exceed each of the individual scores from each sub test, or the higher combined or composite score may be used.

SAT:

Critical Reading = 460

Mathematics = 460

**Combined Total = 970**

ACT:

English = 18

Reading = 19

Mathematics = 19

**Composite = 20**

PERT

Reading 104

Mathematics 123

Writing 99

**No Combined/Composite**

### GPA/Grades Requirements:

3.0 on a 4.0 Scale using the 16 core academic credits. (4-English, 4-Math, 3-Science, 3-Social Studies, 2-Foreign Language. Up to three additional "core" credits can be used for the GPA calculation.)

Student may not have any grades below C; (70%) in any of the 24 credits used for graduation.

## **Standard Diploma Minimum Standards**

Matches the Florida Public School Standard with the addition of Bible.

### **Course Requirements:**

**4 English:** Each with substantial writing, i.e., English I, II, III, IV, or English I, II, III, IV Honors or an AP English, or ENC1102, ENC1102 through Dual Enrollment. Level I courses such as *Business English, English Skill I, II, III, IV* are remedial courses and do not meet the requirement for the standard diploma.

**4 Mathematics:** To include Algebra I and Geometry, Additional math options include Algebra II, Consumer Math, Business Math or any higher level math.

**3 Natural Sciences:** To include Biology, two must include laboratory. *All science credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**3 Social Studies:** Required are: World History, American History, .5 American Gov't, .5 Economics, (*Economics must include an integration of Financial Literacy.*) *All Social Studies credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**1 Personal Fitness:** To include an integration of Health

**1 Performing Fine Art:** .5 may be a Practical Art

**2 Bible:** One, if the student has only attended the school for one year.

### **Test Requirements:**

Using a nationally normed assessment, the student must score in the 40th percentile, or have a grade equivalent score of 10.1 or above in the three core academic areas. This includes Total Reading, Total English (Language) and Total Mathematics. If the ACT or SAT assessment is used, the student must meet or exceed each of the individual scores from each sub test.

SAT:	ACT or PLAN
Critical Reading = 430	English = 15
Mathematics = 430	Reading = 17
	Mathematics = 19

### **GPA Requirements:**

2.0 on a 4.0 Scale using all credits.

No grades below 70% (C) in a core academic area can be counted for credit unless the student has demonstrated mastery in a subsequent course. (A student who earned a "D" in English II first semester but a "C" in the second would not be required to repeat the first semester half credit. However, a student who earned a "D" in second semester of World History would have to repeat the semester as there is no "sequential" course after World History.)

## **General Diploma Minimum Standards**

Matches the Florida Public School Standard with the exception of Geometry and the addition of Bible.

### **Course Requirements:**

**4 English:** Level 2 or above English courses with substantial writing, i.e., English I, II, III, IV, or English I, II, III, IV Honors or and AP English, or ENC1102, ENC1102 through Dual Enrollment. Level 1 courses such as *Business English, English Skills I, II, III, IV* are remedial courses and do not meet the requirement for the standard diploma.

**3 Mathematics:** To include Algebra I, Additional math options include Geometry, Algebra II, Consumer Math, Business Math or any higher level Math.

**3 Natural Sciences:** To include Biology, two must include laboratory. *All science credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**3 Social Studies:** Required are, World History, American History, .5 American Gov't, .5 Economics, which must include an integration of Financial Literacy. *All Social Studies credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**1 Personal Fitness:** To include an integration of Health

**1 Performing Fine Art:** (.5 may be a Practical Art)

**2 Bible:** One, if the student has only attended the school for one year.

### **Test Requirements:**

Using a nationally normed assessment the student must score in the 40th percentile, or have a Grade Equivalent score of 10.1 or above in the three core academic areas. This includes Total Reading, Total English (Language) and Total Mathematics. If the ACT or SAT assessment is used, the student must meet or exceed each of the individual scores from each sub test.

SAT:	ACT or PLAN
Critical Reading = 430	English = 15
Mathematics = 430	Reading = 17
	Mathematics = 19

### **GPA Requirements:**

2.0 on a 4.0 Scale using all credits.

No grades below 70% (C) in a core academic area can be counted for credit unless the student has demonstrated mastery in a subsequent course. (A student who earned a "D" in English II first semester but a "C" in the second would not be required to repeat the first semester half credit. However, a student who earned a "D" in second semester of World History would have to repeat the semester as there is no "sequential" course after World History.)

## Career Designation Diploma Minimum Standards (Vocational)

### **Course Requirements:**

**4 English:** English I-IV, or the lower level, Business English, English Skills I-IV are acceptable.

**3 Mathematics:** Integrated Math I and II, Pre-Algebra, Business Math, Consumer Math are acceptable.

**3 Natural Sciences:** To include Biology, two must include a lab component. Intensive Science, Earth Space Science, Experimental Science I, are acceptable. *All science credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**3 Social Studies:** Required are: World History, American History, .5 American Gov't, .5 Economics, which must include an integration of Financial Literacy. *All Social Studies credits earned at an FCCPSA accredited school must be taught from a Biblical worldview perspective.*

**2 Bible:** One, if the student has only attended the school for one year.

**3 Career or Vocational:** The purpose of this diploma type is to prepare the student for a career. Whenever possible, the vocational course should be in a career field that provides advancement in his/her chosen career or vocation.

### **Test Requirements:**

Using a nationally normed assessment, i.e., Stanford 10, BASI, CAT-5, IOWA, etc., the student must have a Grade Equivalent score of 8.9 or above in the three core academic areas. This includes Total Reading, Total English (Language) and Total Mathematics.

Using the TABE Assessment: Given at most GED prep programs and Vocational Schools for placement.

#### TABE

	Scale Score	G.E.
Language	560	9.0
Math	557	9.0
Reading	567	9.0

### **GPA Requirements:**

2.0 on a 4.0 Scale using all credits.

No grades below 70% (C) in a core academic area can be counted for credit unless the student has demonstrated mastery in a subsequent course. (A student who earned a "D" in English II first semester but a "C" in the second would not be required to repeat the first semester half credit. However, a student who earned a "D" in second semester of World History would have to repeat the semester as there is no "sequential" course after World History.)