

Students

Graduation

To participate in commencement exercises or receive a Scottsbluff Public Schools diploma a student must fully complete all requirements for graduation prior to the official commencement exercises, and complete other administrative requirements or conditions, **except as otherwise required by state law**. Students who graduate from Scottsbluff High School must accumulate 270 credit hours.

Graduation requirements may be modified for students graduating from alternative programs. Such changes will be detailed in the appropriate handbook as approved by the Board of Education each year.

Graduation requirements for special education students will be in accordance with the prescribed course of study as described in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Each student's IEP will include a statement of the projected date of graduation at least 18 months in advance of the projected date and the criteria to be used in determining whether graduation will occur. Prior to the special education student's graduation, the IEP team shall determine whether the graduation criteria have been met. With the approval of the IEP team, any student on an IEP may substitute a comparable course for an identified course that is specifically required for graduation.

The total graduation requirements must include:

<b>SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC SCHOOLS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (270 Total)</b>	
<b>CAREER ACADEMY</b>	<b>70</b>
Pre-Academy Course(s)	10
Foundational Academy or Pathway Courses	60
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Successful completion of two Foundational Career Academies OR one Foundational Career Academy AND one Specialized Academy Pathway is required for graduation.</li> <li>● Courses may count toward completion of both a Foundational Career Academy and core content requirements. However, they may only be counted once toward total hours needed for graduation (270).</li> </ul>	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>40</b>
English 9 or Honors English 9	10
English 10 or Honors English 10	10
English Electives	20
<b>MATH</b>	<b>30</b>
Algebra I	10
Geometry or Advanced Geometry or Accelerated Geometry/Algebra 2	10
Math Elective	10
<b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>30</b>
Physical Science	10
Biology	10
Science Elective	10

<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	<b>30</b>
Geography/World History	10
American History Electives	10
American Government	5
Social Sciences Elective	5
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>PERSONAL FINANCE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*</b>	<b>5</b>

\*This requirement is for the Class of 2028 and beyond.

Each student shall also complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to graduation, unless the required opt-out form is completed by either: (1) the student's parent or legal guardian; (2) the principal, if the principal determines that good cause exists not to require the student to complete the FAFSA; or (3) an emancipated student or student of at least 19 years of age.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, a student who is or was under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court and placed in out-of-home care at any time during the student's high school enrollment shall be eligible to graduate from the District if (1) the student, at any point in time, was enrolled in high school in the District, and (2) if the student has met the minimum graduation requirement established by Scottsbluff Public Schools. If a student does not meet the minimum graduation requirements established by Scottsbluff Public Schools, but meets the minimum graduation requirements established by state law, they may be eligible to receive a state diploma.

Legal Reference: [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-729](#)  
[Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-3301 to 79-3305](#)  
[NDE Rule 10](#)

Date of Adoption: August 9, 2021  
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