



Students Entering Grade Nine in the 2014-2015 School Year What Students and Parents Need to Know

What are the diploma options?

Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

What are the state assessment requirements?

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 ELA (or ACT/SAT concordant score)
- Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) or a comparative score on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.)

Students must participate in the EOC assessments and the results constitute 30 percent of the final course grade. These assessments are in the following subjects:

- Algebra I
- Biology I
- Geometry
- U.S. History
- Algebra II (if enrolled)

What is the credit acceleration program (CAP)?

This program allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include the following subjects:

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- U.S. History
- Biology I
- Algebra II



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What are the requirements for the 24-credit standard diploma option?

4 Credits English Language Arts (ELA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ELA I, II III, IV ▪ ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement
4 Credits Mathematics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One of which must be Algebra I and one of which must be Geometry ▪ Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry)
3 Credits Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One of which must be Biology I, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses. ▪ Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component. ▪ An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I) ▪ An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I)
3 Credits Social Studies
1 credit in World History 1 credit in U.S. History .5 credit in U.S. Government .5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
To include the integration of health
*Eligible courses and eligible course substitutions are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory at http://www.fldoe.org/articulation/CCD/default.asp .
8 Elective Credits
1 Online Course
Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

What are the requirements for standard diploma designations?

Scholar Diploma Designation
<p>In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pass the ELA Grade 11 statewide assessment; ▪ Earn 1 credit in Algebra II (must pass EOC); ▪ Pass the Geometry EOC; ▪ Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course; ▪ Pass the Biology I EOC; ▪ Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics; ▪ Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics; ▪ Pass the U.S. History EOC; ▪ Earn 2 credits in the same World Language; and ▪ Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course. <p>A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology I or U.S. History course and the student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and ▪ Earns the minimum score to earn college credit.
Merit Diploma Designation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet the standard high school diploma requirements ▪ Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)

Can a student who selects the 24-credit program graduate early?

Yes, a student who completes all the 24-credit program requirements for a standard diploma may graduate in fewer than eight semesters.

What is the distinction between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 3 elective credits instead of 8
- Physical Education is not required
- Online course is not required

All other graduation requirements for a 24-credit standard diploma must be met (per section 1003.4282(10)(d)1.-5., Florida Statutes [F.S.]).

Where is information on Bright Futures Scholarships located?

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program rewards students for their academic achievements during high school by providing funding to attend a postsecondary institution in Florida. For more information, go to <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/>.

What are the public postsecondary options?

State University System
<p>Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous curriculum in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High school graduation with a standard diploma ▪ Admission test scores ▪ 16 credits of college preparatory academic courses ▪ 4 English (3 with substantial writing) ▪ 4 Mathematics (Algebra I level and above) ▪ 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab) ▪ 3 Social Science ▪ 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language) ▪ 2 approved electives <p>http://www.flbog.edu/forstudents/planning</p>
The Florida College System
<p>Includes 28 state colleges. These institutions offer career-related certificates and two-year associate degrees that prepare students to transfer to a bachelor's degree program or to enter jobs requiring specific skills. Many also offer baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields. Florida College System institutions have an open door policy. This means that students who have earned a standard high school diploma, have earned a high school equivalency diploma or have demonstrated success in postsecondary coursework will be admitted to an associate degree program.</p> <p>http://www.fldoe.org/fcs</p>
Career and Technical Centers
<p>Florida also offers students 46 accredited career and technical centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.</p> <p>http://www.fldoe.org/workforce/pdf/DistrictTechnicalCenterDirectors.pdf</p>

Where is information on financial aid located?

The Office of Student Financial Assistance State Programs administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships.

<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>

COMMUNITY SERVICE is defined as identifying a social issue in the community. This requires students to look beyond themselves and reach out to an issue faced by our society today (i.e. poverty, abuse, elder rights).
VOLUNTEER SERVICE is defined as assisting where needed and does not necessarily address a social issue. Although these hours are not recorded on the transcript, students can keep a log of these activities for use when applying for college, job applications, awards and scholarships other than the Bright Futures.

1. To be eligible to receive the Florida Academic Scholars Award a student must complete a program of community service work that includes a "minimum of one hundred (100) hours of community service."
2. To be eligible to receive the Florida Medallion Scholars Award a student must complete a program of community service work that includes a "minimum of seventy-five (75) hours of community service."
3. To be eligible to receive the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award a student must complete a program of community service work that includes a "minimum of thirty (30) hours of community service".
4. The student will identify a social problem that interests him/her, develop a plan of personal involvement in addressing the problem and evaluate and reflect upon the experience.
5. The community service work shall address a social problem with preference to benefiting the State of Florida and/or Pinellas County.
6. The service may be performed at more than one (1) agency and address more than one (1) social problem, however, each agency must be approved by the high school's community service designee prior to the beginning of the experience.
7. The high school's community service designee must approve the student's plan prior to the beginning of the experience.
8. The student must be a high school student enrolled in grades 9-12.

The following steps are the process for documenting the community service experience. A list of possible community service experiences are listed on the reverse side of this form. This list should not be considered all inclusive.

1. Meet with the community service designee at the student's high school to review policies and procedures on the Student Community Service information Sheet (PCS 2-2602-1).
2. Contact the community agency for an interview to discuss the social issue and a plan of action to address the social issue.
3. Complete form #1 (PCS 2-2602-2) after developing a detailed identification of the social problem and plan of action.
4. Submit community service form #1 (PCS form 2-2602-2) to the community service designee at the high school for approval.
5. Log community service hours on form #2 (PCS form 2-2602-3). The agency contact person must sign this documentation.
6. Summarize, evaluate, and reflect upon the community service work experience and the persons in the community that the student interacted with during this service work. Submit this information to the high school community service designee by completing the reverse side of the community service form #2 (PCS form 2-2602-3).
7. The completed forms shall be placed in the student's official cumulative file at the high school.

WHAT HOURS CANNOT BE COUNTED?

1. Hours logged prior to the high school community service designee's approval and signature.
2. Court mandated community service.
3. An activity for which a student benefited financially or materially for the community service work.
4. All forms of duty within the family. The student's family to include; parents (including step), siblings (including step), any of their grandchildren (including step) and any of their spouses.
5. Religious devotion or any activity which can be interpreted primarily as proselytizing.
6. An activity where there is no leader or responsible adult on site to evaluate and confirm student performance.

If a proposed plan is not approved by a high school's community service designee, the student may appeal the denial to the Bright Futures Community Service Appeals Committee, which will render a final decision on the student's plan. The committee will be appointed by the District Guidance office who will develop procedures for the committee. Decisions of the committee (without personal identifiable information about an individual student) will be distributed to all high schools.

DISTRICT SUGGESTED COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

* All phone numbers have "727" area code unless otherwise indicated

Abuse Issues

Abuse Shelters 823-5665
Center for Survivors of Torture 479-1800 or 538-7460
The Children's Home-Abused Children (813) 855-4435

Animal Rights and Environmental Issues

Bay Area Greyhound Adoptions (813) 272-2332
Bottle Babies are Us 831-7561
Clearwater Marine Aquarium 441-1790, ext. 230
City & County Park Services 582-2100
Dunedin Doggie Rescue www.dunedindogs.com
Friends of Strays
Florida Gulfcoast Center for Fishing and
Interactive Museum 365-4660
Greyhound Pets of Am. Humane Society 595-7852
Humane Society 797-7722
Pinellas Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society 533-8769
SPCA 586-3591
Sun Coast Seabird Society 392-4291 or 391-6211
Wildlife Rehabilitation Centers

Diversity Issues

Holocaust Museum 820-0100

Elderly Citizen Issues

Assisted Living Facilities
Delta Society-Pets to Nursing Homes
Florida Elder Care
Grand-Kids (813) 758-8576
Nursing Homes
Project Pups-Pets to Nursing Homes 497-3005

Health Issues

Alzheimer's Issues 578-2558
American Cancer Society
American Heart Association 563-8000 or (800) 275-0448
American Red Cross (813) 348-4820
Frances House-HIV
Free Health Clinics
Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services-HIV 479-1800
Hospice 586-4432
Hospitals
National Alliance on Mental Illness 479-3254
Rehabilitation Centers
Therapeutic Clowning
United Cerebral Palsy

Legal Issues

Teen Court Arbitration
Voter registration

Life Issues

211 Tampa Bay Cares 210-4233
Anti-Smoking Campaigns 824-6947
CASA-Survivors of Domestic Violence 895-4912 ext. 107
H.O.N.O.R.
Illiteracy
Junior Achievement-Financial Literacy & Economics Sem. 530-0884
Kimberly Home, Inc. for Un-Wed Mothers 587-6900 or 443-6471
L. E. A. D.
MCTFT-Multi-County Drug Task Force
Paul's Project 460-1027
Pregnancy Crisis Center
SPC Dollars for Scholars
Straight Alliance-Sexuality Issues
TAPP-Alcohol Abuse
Teen Suicide 211 or 562-1542
Underage Drinking

Mentally/Physically Challenged Individuals Issues

Best Buddies
Canine Companions for Independence
CASIL
Creative Clay, Inc.
Horses for Handicapped
Lighthouse of Pinellas 544-4433
PARC 345-9111
PAWS-with a Cause
Saddle Up Riding Club 520-3132
Special Olympics
UPARC 799-3330
YMCA-Assisting Clients 787-9622

Mentoring Students

Big Brother/Big Sister 518-8860
Boys Club/Girls Club 547-KIDS
CASH
City of Dunedin
Peer Connectors
Peer to Peer
Public Schools (must be trained through Office of Strategic Partnerships)
Ronald McDonald House
The Warrior Women 767-8166

Need Based/Poverty Issues

American Second Harvest of Tampa Bay (813) 254-1190
Clothes to Kids 327-7100 ext. 222
Habitat for Humanity 536-4755
Holiday Toy Drives
Homeless Emergency Project, Inc. 442-9041
Meals on Wheels
Pinellas County Family Resources
RCS Food Pantry 584-3528
Salvation Army 550-8080
Soup Kitchens
Toys for Tots 340-6292
United Way www.volunteertampabay.org

Other

YAR-Youth as Resources

Tutoring - ESOL

Children of the World-Pre-School
Libraries
ESOL Adult Literacy 442-6881 Ext. 5

Tutoring - At Risk of Failing Students

Big Brother/Big Sister 518-8860
Boys/Girls Clubs 547-KIDS
Bridging the Achievement Gap 586-4682 or 501-5517
Chi Chi Rod. Organization
Early Head Start 547-5970
Hospitals
Libraries
Police Athletic League of St. Petersburg (PALSP)
Public Schools-Academic Classes
R-Club 578-5437
Recreation Centers
Ronald McDonald House 821-8961 or 767-8166
YMCA



PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS
STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT PROPOSAL
 Form 1 of 2



Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

District Student Number _____ Graduation Year: _____

High School: _____

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Please answer the following questions:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Is this community service court-mandated? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Is this an activity that will benefit you financially or materially? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Is this an activity within your family? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Is this activity a form of religious devotion or an activity that can be seen as primarily proselytizing? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. Is this an activity with no responsible leader on site to evaluate and confirm student performance (i.e., fostering an animal in your home)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. Does this activity promote a political candidate or party? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 7. Is this activity a donation (i.e., Locks of Love, giving blood)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

If you answered yes to any of these questions, this activity cannot be approved because it is against district policy.

The social issue I will address is (i.e., poverty, animal overpopulation, obesity) _____

How will you address this issue? _____

Name of Agency: _____

Name of Contact at Agency: _____ Phone Number of Agency: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

CHECK LIST:

1. The Student Community Service Project form should be completed and approved by the High School Community Service Designee **PRIOR** to starting community service hours.

2. High School Community Service Designee contacted and project approved: Yes No

Signature: _____ Date _____
 High School Community Service Designee

3. High School Community Service Designee - please place the original in the student's cumulative folder.

