

Proposed Mississippi Diploma

Mississippi has two diplomas options: The Traditional Diploma and the Alternate Diploma. The Traditional Diploma is for all students. The Alternate Diploma is an option for students with a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD).

TRADITIONAL DIPLOMA OPTION

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English I English II
Mathematics	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I
Science	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology I
Social Studies	3½	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career and College Readiness	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must occur within one semester of graduation
Technology	1	
Additional Electives	5 ½	
Total Units Required	24	

Requirements

- Student must identify an endorsement area prior to entering 9th grade. Endorsement requirements can only be changed with parental permission.
- For early release, student must have met College or Career Readiness Benchmarks that allow students to attend postsecondary without remediation or demonstrate work ready requirements.

Recommendations

- For early graduation, a student should successfully complete an area of endorsement.
- A student should take a math or math equivalent course the senior year.

ALTERNATE DIPLOMA OPTION

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternate English Elements I-IV
Mathematics	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternate Math Elements I-III Alternate Algebra Elements
Science	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternate Biology Elements Alternate Science Elements II
Social Studies	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternate History Elements (Strands: U.S. History and World History) Alternate Social Studies Elements (Strands: Economics and U.S. Government)
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternate Health Elements
Art	1	
Career Readiness	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Readiness I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Employability, and Social)
Life Skills Development	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life Skills Development I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Personal Care, and Social)
Additional Electives	2	
Total Units Required	24	

Requirements

- The Alternate Diploma is not equivalent to a traditional high school diploma and is not recognized by post-secondary entities that require a traditional high school diploma.
- All students are required to participate in the Mississippi Assessment Program-Alternate Assessment (MAP-A) with a score of 3 or higher.
- Students who have met the criteria on their IEP for having a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD) may participate in a program of study to earn the Alternate Diploma.

Traditional Diploma Endorsement Options

Students pursuing a Traditional Diploma must identify an endorsement prior to entering 9th grade. There are three endorsement options: Career and Technical, Academic, and Distinguished Academic Endorsement.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL ENDORSEMENT

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• English I • English II
Mathematics	4	• Algebra I
Science	3	• Biology I
Social Studies	3½	• 1 World History • ½ Economics • 1 U.S. History • ½ Mississippi Studies • ½ U.S. Government
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career and College Readiness	1	• Must occur within one semester of graduation
Technology	1	
CTE Electives	4	• Must complete a four-course sequential program of study
Additional Electives	3 ½	
Total Units Required	26	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
 - Earn silver level on ACT WorkKeys
 - Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26
- Must successfully complete one of the following:
- One CTE dual credit
 - A Career Pathway Experience
 - Earn a State Board of Education approved national credential

ACADEMIC ENDORSEMENT

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• English I • English II
Mathematics	4	• Algebra I
Science	3	• Biology I
Social Studies	3½	• 1 World History • ½ Economics • 1 U.S. History • ½ Mississippi Studies • ½ U.S. Government
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Career and College Readiness	1	• Must occur within one semester of graduation
Technology	1	
Additional Electives	7 ½	• Must meet CPC requirements for MS IHLs
Total Units Required	26	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5
 - Courses must meet MS IHL college preparatory curriculum (CPC) requirements
 - Earn MS IHL and Community college readiness benchmarks (ACT sub scores 17 English and 19 Math as approved by postsecondary for non-remediation at most Community Colleges and IHL college-ready courses in senior year.)
 - Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26
- Must successfully complete one of the following:
- One AP course and take the appropriate AP exam
 - One IB course and take the appropriate IB exams
 - One dual credit course with a non-weighted C or higher in the course

DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC ENDORSEMENT

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• English I • English II
Mathematics	4	• Algebra I
Science	4	• Biology I
Social Studies	4	• 1 World History • ½ Economics • 1 U.S. History • ½ Mississippi Studies • ½ U.S. Government
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Art	1	
Capstone Experience	1	• Must occur within one semester of graduation
Technology	1	
Additional Electives	8	• Must meet CPC requirements for MS IHLs
Total Units Required	28	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 3.0
- Courses must meet MS IHL CPC recommended requirements
- Earn national college readiness benchmarks on each subtest established by ACT or SAT
- Earn four additional Carnegie Units for a total of 28
- Must successfully complete one of the following:
 - One AP course and take the appropriate AP exam
 - One IB course and take the appropriate IB exams
 - One dual credit course with a non-weighted B or higher