

Requirements Comparison: High School Graduation, Admissions, and Regents Scholars

EFFECTIVE FALL 2006					
Subject	Standard HS Graduation Requirements (meets the requirements established for the <i>basic</i> high school program under SDCL 13-33-19)	Advanced HS Graduation Requirements (meets the requirements established for the <i>recommended</i> high school program under SDCL 13-33-19)	Distinguished HS Graduation Requirements (*) denotes offerings required to meet the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship	Current BOR Admissions Requirements	Current Regents Scholar Requirements
English/ Language Arts	4 units English/Reading & Communication Art (1.5 Writing and 1.5 Literature including .5 American Literature and .5 Speech)	4 units English/Reading & Communication Art (1.5 Writing and 1.5 Literature including .5 American Literature and .5 Speech)	4 units English/Reading & Communication Art* (1.5 Writing and 1.5 Literature including .5 American Literature and .5 Speech)	4 years (emphasis on grammar, composition, literature - 1 yr of debate instruction may be included)	4 units of English (Courses with major emphasis upon grammar, composition, or literary analysis; one year of debate instruction may be included to meet this requirement.)
Social Studies	3 units Social Studies (1 US History; and .5 US Government; and .5 Geography; and .5 World History)	3 units Social Studies (1 US History; and .5 US Government; and .5 Geography; and .5 World History)	3 units Social Studies* (1 US History; and .5 US Government; and .5 Geography; and .5 World History)	3 years: (History, Economics, Sociology, Geography, Government)	3 units of Social Studies (History, Economics, Sociology, Geography, Government - including US & South Dakota, American Problems, etc.)
Mathematics	3 units Mathematics (must include Algebra I)	3 units Mathematics (must include Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry or higher)	4 units Mathematics* (must include Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry (or higher) and Higher Level Math Elective)	3 years of advanced math (Algebra, geometry, trigonometry or other advanced math including accelerated or honors math (algebra) provided at the 8th grade level; not included are arithmetic, business, consumer or general math or other similar courses)	4 units of Algebra or higher Math (Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry or other advanced Mathematics including accelerated or honors Mathematics (Algebra) provided at the 8th grade shall be accepted. Not included are Arithmetic, Business, Consumer or General Mathematics or other similar courses.)
Laboratory Science	2 units Science (minimum of 2 units of lab science)	3 units Science (minimum of 3 units of lab science) (must include Biology and Chemistry or Physics)	4 units Science* (minimum of 3 units of lab science) (must include Biology and Chemistry or Physics)	3 years: (Biology, Chemistry, Physics with at least 1 Laboratory period scheduled each week) (accelerated or honor science (biology, physics, or chemistry) provided in 8th grade shall be accepted) qualifying physical science or earth science courses with labs shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.	4 units of Science including 3 units of approved Laboratory Science (Courses in Biology, Chemistry, or Physics in which at least one (1) regular laboratory period is scheduled each week. Accelerated or honors science (Biology, Physics, or Chemistry) provided in the 8th grade shall be accepted. Qualifying Physical Science or Earth Science courses (with lab) shall be decided on a case by case basis.)

	Required Offerings: student must select 2 units with any combination of- a. World Language, or b. Computer Studies; or c. Approved Career and Technical Education courses; or d. Mathematics courses in addition to meeting the math requirement above; or e. Science courses in addition to meeting the science requirement above.	Required Offerings: student must select 2 units with any combination of- a. World Language, or b. Computer Studies; or c. Approved Career and Technical Education courses; or d. Mathematics courses in addition to meeting the math requirement above; or e. Science courses in addition to meeting the science requirement above.	2 units World Language* (2 years same language) .5 units Computer Studies*		
Foreign Language				None	2 units of a modern (including American Sign Language) or classical language. Two units must be in the same language.
Computer Skills				Demonstrated either through high school course work or documented by some other means *	1/2 unit of Computer Science (Students will have basic keyboarding skills and have had experience in using computer word-processing, database and spreadsheet packages and in using the Internet or other wide area networks.)
Fine Arts	1 unit Fine Arts	1 unit Fine Arts	1 unit Fine Arts*	1 year: Art, Theater, Music	1 unit of Fine Arts in: Art, Theatre, or Music-Appreciation, Analysis, or Performance *Effective Fall 2005 for students graduating from SD high schools
Health or Physical Education	.5 units Health or Physical Education	.5 units Health or Physical Education	.5 units Health or Physical Education		
Economics or Personal Finance	.5 units Economics or Personal Finance	.5 units Economics or Personal Finance	.5 units Economics or Personal Finance		
Electives	6 units Electives	5 units Electives	2.5 units Electives		

1 unit equals one year

For the BOR policy, go to www.sdbor.edu, click on Policies and Agreements, then on Policy Manual, then on Section 2: Academics, and then on Policy 2:3.

* Effective Fall 2006, entering students who have not taken such high school coursework, must complete a specified computer course addressing these skills and competencies within the first 42 credit hours attempted.

UPDATED: October, 2006

