

Ideal Schools

Graduation Requirements

Discipline Area	Credits Required		Notes
	Standard Diploma	Advanced Studies Diploma	
English	4	4	English credit may be awarded for courses in other academic disciplines (e.g., Social Science or History) when those courses involve comparable work in reading, research, and writing. In these cases, credit can be awarded in English or in the other discipline.
Mathematics	3	4	Mathematics includes Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra Functions and Data Analysis, Algebra II, Probability and Statistics, Applied Mathematics, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus, among other mathematical subjects.
Laboratory Science	3	4	Laboratory science includes Earth Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, and all of the laboratory science courses that fall within one or more of these broad categories.
History and Social Sciences	3	4	At Ideal Schools, Social Sciences may also be referred to as PPE (Politics, Philosophy, and Economics), when appropriate.
Health and Physical Education	2	2	
Foreign Language, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	2	See below	Foreign language credit is awarded based on successful completion of foreign-language study, as measured by instructor-prepared or technology-based (e.g., Rosetta Stone) assessments. For the standard diploma, a total of 2 credits of foreign language or fine arts are required for graduation, and may be composed of foreign language course work, fine art course work, or a combination of both.
Foreign Language	See above	3	Foreign language credit is awarded based on successful completion of foreign-language study, as measured by instructor-prepared or technology-based (e.g., Rosetta Stone) assessments.
Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	See above	1	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	1	May be satisfied by Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) course work focusing on economics or finance.
Electives	3	2	Electives include career and technical education and other off-campus instruction that is recognized for academic credit based on the content and rigor of the instruction, academic work, and assessment.
Senior Project	1	1	This is an Ideal Schools requirement; the Commonwealth of Virginia does not require the completion of a Senior Project. The Senior Project is completed during a student's final year, and work on the project during the senior (and possibly junior) year will range between 1 and 1.75 credits, depending on the scale and complexity of the project. Credit for the project will be awarded in the appropriate discipline area(s) or as separate Senior Project credit(s).
TOTAL	22	26	

Ideal Schools High School graduation requirements are aligned with Commonwealth of Virginia high school graduation requirements for Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas.

Credit Hours

One credit hour consists of four quarters of coursework completed successfully for credit. A one-quarter course in any of the academic disciplines listed above is worth 0.25 credits. Each quarter is graded separately, and semester or annual grades are not calculated by averaging quarter scores.

Credit for courses taken prior to enrolling will be awarded for all courses offered for credit in grades 9-12, even if taken before grade 9, provided the courses are equivalent in content and academic rigor to those courses offered at the secondary level. Credit will also be awarded for successful completion of community college or university courses while enrolled.