

# Graduation Requirements

In order to prepare its students for colleges and careers, the Elk Grove Unified School District has some of the most rigorous graduation requirements in California. The Board of Education believes that students will be better prepared for colleges and careers if they are challenged in high school. The district has increased its graduation requirements several times in the past 19 years.

Since 1989, the Board of Education has added the following requirements:

- Algebra (Class of 1993)
- Take and pass math in senior year (Class of 1996)
- 1 additional year of math or science, 1 additional year of world language and proficiency in technology (Class of 1998)
- Proficiency in speech (Class of 2000)
- Pass the California High School Exit Exam (Class of 2006)

As the state standards have recommended that students take algebra and geometry earlier than before, many students are now able to fulfill these graduation requirements in middle school.



Currently, the district's graduation requirements are as follows:

- 4 years of English
- 4 years of math (including algebra) and 2 years of science **OR** 3 years of math (including algebra) and 3 years of science (math must be taken senior year)
- 3.5 years of social science
- 2 years of physical education
- 2 years of world language **OR** 1 year world language and 1 year of fine arts
- 1 semester of health
- Must demonstrate proficiency in current technology or pass a course
- Must demonstrate proficiency in public speaking or pass a course
- Must pass the California High School Exit Exam
- Additional electives

The district also offers courses to prepare students to enter college in the CSU or UC system. By fulfilling "A through G" requirements, students can be better prepared to attend a California public university. Contact a high school counselor for more information.

In addition, whenever the district considers updating its requirements, they are first reviewed by two committees - one comprised of teachers and administrators and one of parents and business leaders. These committees examine what employers and colleges expect of graduates to ensure that the district's requirements prepare students with skills they need to be successful in their post secondary education and careers. The committees forward their recommendations to the Board, which makes the final decision.