



Core and College/Work-ready Curriculum Requirements

In 1990, the Oklahoma Legislature included the arts in a core curriculum mandate and, for the first time, required access to arts education for every student. At that time, a sequential framework of student standards for the arts through 12th grade was developed and approved. Currently, a fine arts course credit is required for high school graduation. See the [Oklahoma ESSA Consolidated State Plan](https://sde.ok.gov/ok-essa-state-plan) (sde.ok.gov/ok-essa-state-plan) and [Oklahoma Statute](https://bit.ly/2PFew2c) (bit.ly/2PFew2c).

College Preparatory/Work Ready

Students shall complete the following college preparatory/work ready curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

- One unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music, art, or drama, or one unit or set of competencies of speech

Core

Students shall complete the following core curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

- Arts - One unit or set of competencies which may include, but is not limited to, courses in visual arts and general music

Critical Shifts

1. Oklahoma Academic Standards for Fine Arts

Currently, the subjects of Music and Visual Art have [Oklahoma Academic Standards](https://bit.ly/2AMVmPF) (bit.ly/2AMVmPF).

In the future, standards will be developed for Dance and Theatre. The development process for these new standards is underway and are expected to be presented for legislative approval in Spring 2020.

2. High School Credit in Middle School

Students are able to take classes in middle school for high school credit if **all** of the following criteria are met:

1. the course is coded to the high school subject code
2. the course is taught by a certified teacher in the subject area
3. the coursework is at the same level of rigor as a high school course

3. Meeting Fine Arts Requirements with Other Courses

Beginning with the class of 2023, schools will **NOT** be able to count World History or English Language Arts classes as a Fine Arts credit unless the following qualifications are met:

1. the course is taught by a teacher certified in a Fine Arts area (dance, music, speech, drama, debate, or visual art) **AND**
2. the course includes the complete standards for both subject areas.

Changes in Accreditation Process

Reporting

When including information in the accreditation report, please use the correct level for students in various classes. For example, a student in their second year of high school instrumental music would be in Instrumental Music II, not Music I.

PK-8 Course Guidance

Code	Course	Guidance
1173	Art	This course code applies to PK-8 Visual Art classes.
1183	General Music	This course code applies to PK-8 Music classes. General Music is an overview of music through various music concepts, genres, instruments and movement activities.
1184	Music Appreciation	This course code applies to a Western-European Music Appreciation elective in Grades 6-8.
1186	Dance	This course code applies to PK-8 Dance classes.
1187	Vocal Music	This course code applies to Grades 6-8 Vocal or Choir classes.
1189	Drama	This course code is for a Drama class that does not count for High School credit.
1195	Band	This course code applies to Band and Orchestra classes.
1196	Music History	This course code applies to an elective in Grades 6-8 only. For example, Western-European History, Rock n' Roll History or other genres.

For More Information

[Dr. Elizabeth Maughan, Director of Fine Arts](mailto:elizabeth.maughan@sde.ok.gov) (elizabeth.maughan@sde.ok.gov)

[Fine Arts Graduation FAQ](http://bit.ly/oklahoma-graduation) (bit.ly/oklahoma-graduation)

[Oklahoma ESSA Consolidated State Plan](http://sde.ok.gov/ok-essa-state-plan) (sde.ok.gov/ok-essa-state-plan)

[High School Graduation Requirements in Statute](http://bit.ly/2PFew2c) (bit.ly/2PFew2c)

[Oklahoma Academic Standards for Music and Visual Art](http://bit.ly/2AMVmPF) (bit.ly/2AMVmPF)

